

Lambda

Laurentian University's Student Newspaper
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This issue is dedicated
to the memory of
Nicholas Maurice Gagnon
January 2 1995 - November 30 1995

L.U. RHODES SCHOLAR



• The Marsay, a member of Laurentian University's Rhodes Scholar with his father and Dr. Donohue.

LOOKING FORWARD TO CHRISTMAS BREAK SINCE 1961

Reading Week Travel Could be Jeopardized!

With Reading Week fast approaching, there are several travel companies competing in the Sudbury market. While this competition can benefit students eager for a week of fun, it can also create a situation where travel companies are not playing by the rules.

This is where the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations comes in. To protect consumers, the Ministry has established legal guidelines that are enforced through the Travel Industry Act. This Act regulates all travel companies including those who promote and sell travel services on college and university campuses.

Most companies follow these guidelines loyally. Unfortunately, this is not always true, especially with companies selling Reading Week vacations.

For example, although students may act as a contact person or representative, it is against the law for them to sell travel services. Travel services can only be sold by a retail travel company registered in Ontario. As a representative, students cannot use their residence or student union office as a contact. It is also against the law for student contacts to use their residential telephone number, either as a contact number or on their posters and advertisements.

This concern has been brought up with regards to a package being made available to students at Laurentian. Unfortunately, it seems that the student working as the contact is unaware of the possible liabilities he faces.

Although a student contact may not be aware of these regulations, they are well-known within the travel industry and it is the responsibility of their employer that they ensure their contacts are working within the law. However, some companies may not be sufficiently involved in their roles as employers to protect their clients or they may chose to turn a blind eye in order to increase their sales.

"There are so many things to consider when booking a holiday," says Rona Kalijarvi, manager of the Travel Cuts office in Sudbury, "and knowing the laws and how a company responds to them may help students decide how reliable that company is."

Rhodes Scholarship to LU Student

by Dominic Vidmar & Lisa Urso
Staff Writers

Laurentian University's 1st Rhodes scholarship has been awarded to Aaron Marsaw, a Philosophy and Political Science student. Marsaw received the news last Monday afternoon and was ecstatic over the news. He had been thinking about this since his first year at Laurentian. But the final push came in September, when he actually applied and the ball started rolling. Letters from the President, Ross Paul, and down through the grapevine were sent to the evaluation

committee. He had an interview this weekend for the scholarship and received the news on the same day as his interview.

The process was quick and somewhat painless, he joked. The scholarship is awarded on the basis of academic achievement, extracurricular activities and community involvement with a special emphasis placed on leadership qualities.

Marsaw displayed these qualities early on, with his latest involvement as a guide on Parliament Hill this past summer. Marsaw has also been a volunteer at the CNIB, being visually impaired himself, he feels he can best help those who are in the same situation be the best they

can be. Another community group he has helped out has been the United Way since high school. He has also been actively involved in promoting bilingualism and debating. His marks were possibly not the highest of all candidates but he felt that, during the interview process, the committee was focusing more on community involvement rather than a strict academic standard.

This is a great achievement for both Laurentian University and Aaron. As Aaron put it, Laurentian can be the stepping stone to greatness, despite the McClean's poll [ranking LU 18th out of 19th]. Lambda wishes to congratulate Aaron on his award and wish him the best at Oxford.

A Mike Harris Government Means New Hope For Students

by L.U.P.C.A.
Contributor

Students concerned about the universality and affordability of post-secondary education can breathe easier now that Mike Harris has become Premier of Ontario. Under the NDP, tuition fees at Ontario universities rose by an average of 30%, while at the same time Bob Rae did absolutely nothing to reform the loan system to maintain universality. This was the same Bob Rae who promised students zero-tuition in his 1990 campaign. So why did this supposed "pro-student" Premier let us down? Because he practiced an old and outdated statist policy towards post-secondary education which backfired and made life more difficult for students. Rae promised to increase funding to universities and colleges by paramount proportions thus eventually phasing out tuition fees altogether. But where was all this money supposed to come from? Both the federal and provincial governments are bankrupt and must

cut spending now so that our future could be salvaged. Once constrained by this fiscal reality, Rae rescinded on his promise for greater funding but he stubbornly held on to his statist policy of regulating tuition fees. Thus, while he decreased funding to post-secondary institutions, he continued to deny schools the right to raise the necessary funds needed to adequately serve students. This resulted in a disastrous first half of the decade for students. Even though they were paying more, they subjected to lower enrollment, substandard services and program cuts.

Students should rejoice that Ontarians voted against Bob Rae's brand of neo-socialism and embraced Mike Harris' "Common Sense Revolution". Harris has a promising plan with regards to post-secondary education. In the CSR document he outlines his plan to partially de-regulate tuition over a two year period allowing universities and colleges enough resources to improve student services and programs. Harris also vows to introduce an "Equal Opportunity Education Fund" which would guarantee that anyone who requires financial assistance to attend school will receive it. The loan will

be paid back as a percentage of income on each student's provincial income tax form. The repayments will be geared to future income so that students "will never be required to repay more than they could afford." This way, financial barriers to university access will be removed, while at the same time, students services and programs will be improved. Mike Harris' plan is a truly sensible solution to the financial problems facing students and schools today. It is not based on an ideological dream but rather on concrete and practical ideas which will improve the long-term situation of post-secondary education.

For this plan to become reality, however, students are encouraged to join their local Progressive Conservative campus club and to promote the Equal Opportunity Education Fund. We must ignore the neo-socialist politics of OFS and other left-wing student groups and not get fooled by their rhetoric. They will oppose any plan that does not advocate zero tuition, and will not offer any realistic solutions. Mike Harris does offer a real solution and it is up to us to support it for the sake of our future.

Merry Christmas
and Happy New
Year. See you on
January 11th
when we return!

Season's Greeting

by Troy Whetstone
SGA President

On behalf of the SGA Executive, I would like to extend a warm seasons' greetings to one and all.

Before we can take advantage of the break in the academic year, of course, there is the question of exams. We hope you have prepared diligently for them, and we wish you success. If the SGA can be of any assistance at this stressful time of year, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

The joy of this holiday season will be diminished for most Laurentian students by the recent announcements regarding cutbacks to funding of the university's system



and other provincial services. You can at least count on the SGA to be fighting against these cutbacks and to fight for increased student representation in Laurentian's decision making structures since students are directly paying an increased share of the costs.

Despite the two hurdles mentioned, this is a time of year to rest, relax, and

gather with family and friends, and think of those less fortunate than ourselves. We at the SGA hope that each and every one of you will have a safe and rewarding holiday. Oh, by the way, classes officially start again on January 3, 1996, but ask your professor when they will be returning. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



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Students Guide To The November 29th Financial Statement

by Kevin Dorse
SGA- VP External

If you are a big fan of irony like I am, I'm sure you'll really appreciate this story. Last week on my way home for lunch I checked my mail box hoping to find yet another phone bill or a flyer inviting me to by "fish-by-mail." Instead, what I found was a plain white envelope with the words "Mike Harris, MPP, Premier" emblazoned across the front. Inside was not a detailed explanations as to why our government was engaging in a frontal assault on over 40 years of social programs and social justice in this province. Nor was it a personal letter apologizing for the \$400 million in spending reductions to colleges and universities which Mr. Eves was to announce later that week. Rather, it was a lovely letter explaining this Government's "Record of Accomplishment" - a litany of cuts and reforms aimed at benefiting the wealthiest of Ontarians: the cancellation of a full day kindergarten test project, increased health care funds to Ontario residents residing in the United States, and 21.6% cuts, and reduced eligibility for welfare recipients. Even though a critic of Mr. Harris — a so-called "special interest" in his estimation — I was still invited to donate anywhere from \$35 to \$250 (discounting my personal tax credit if I were not on a "fixed or low income") to "help ensure that the Party that helped us achieve victory on election day, remains strong in the face of the political challenges ahead." Needless to say, I didn't scramble for my checkbook.

On November 29, Finance Minister Ernie Eves did what he could to bring his party that much closer to yet another political challenge with his sweeping financial statement. To no ones' surprise the order of the day was massive spending reductions to Municipalities, Universities, School board and Health care - otherwise known as MUSH. Colleges and universities were directly cut \$4000 million (as had been promised in the Common Sense Revolution) equaling a reduction of \$280 million from universities — a cut of 16%. In order to make up for this, tuition will now rise 10% instantly in 1996 and tuition was deregulated by 10% to allow each institution to decide how much extra it wants to charge for the services it provides — Dr. Ross Paul took the initiative the day following to announce that LU will be taking advantage of the full 10% — raising tuition a total of 20% next year.

Infatuated with the abstractions of economic principles, the Tories have explored the concept of allowing total deregulation of tuition fees in the future. For the time being however, our government has announced that international students will be at the whims of individual institutions who may choose how much to charge these students for their "educational products." Information from the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario suggests that tuition fees in 1996-7 will account for 34% of the total operating revenue of universities, up to 23% currently. Because students will be paying more and more for their education, the government intends to reform OSAP to create a "income contingent repayment plan", whereby interest will continue to accrue upon your student loan until you reach a level of income which triggers repayment. However, if you never get a good paying job for 15 or 20 years...well, that's not our problem is it? Don't expect to be able to march into Student Awards next year to sign on to the "eternal debt plan", the initial costs of setting up this plan are too substantial for the Harris government to afford at this time.

so how are Laurentian students to react to Mr Eves' announcement? Well, if you are one of those people who make enough money to benefit from the 30% tax cut proposed in the "CSR", sit back and relax, you'll have plenty of money to afford another \$500 in tuition next year! But this points out legitimate concern—that of accessibility. Obviously, the more you charge for a university education, particularly at Laurentian where 65% of students rely on student assistance already, the further out of reach university will become for many. Equally likely is that as less and less students choose to attend university, less money will be available to put into teaching and research, therefore quality of the education will be diminished.

I don't think this is what Harris and Eves have in mind when they speak of the importance of revitalizing this province and its economy. What no one seems to realize is that fostering an educated work force by promoting accessibility to post-secondary education is an important building block to creating a dynamic and vital economy. Our government has sent us a clear message. Post-secondary education is available for all Ontarians—but like any other luxury item, be prepared to pay for it.

Seasons Greetings

Something
interesting going on
during your
holidays? Let us
know! Become a
Lambda Staff members
in three easy steps.



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Laurentian University Bookstore

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Monday, Dec 18 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec 19 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan 4 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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We buy books that can be reused here...or on other campuses. RECYCLE FOR CASH

Bookstore Confidential

by Dominic Vidmar
Staff Writer

The majority of students here at LU have one thing in common: a difficulty with the Bookstore, its prices and policies. Lambda has discovered a few details that students might not be aware of. During the course of an interview with Richard Morin, Manager of the Bookstore, he was quite upfront about the complaints students had.

According to the results of last year's student survey, the vast majority of complaints centered around the "huge profits" and "ridiculously high prices on textbooks." Morin wanted to clarify some of the misconceptions that

students had. Comments ranged from "Pricing: while in Toronto I noticed 2 of my textbooks for a cheaper value, one was \$8 cheaper and the other \$12." "Why does the bookstore buy back \$80 textbooks for \$10 and then sell them back for 70," "Buy-back procedure is piracy, rude and insulting."

"The Bookstore does not run the "Buy-Back" program," Morin explained. "This is run by a private company that we bring in as a service to students. This company goes to universities across the country to buy back text books from students. They purchase the books according to a market value list and then send the books to a central warehouse where the books sit until a bookstore needs said books. The company is not paid

to come on campus; they work on the supposition that they will purchase books that they will then be able to sell somewhere else. Unfortunately, the Bookstore does not have any control on the price given to students by this company. The Bookstore will give the list of books that they want to purchase, and students will find that, if their titles are requested by faculty, they will receive 50% of the retail cost for their books."

Also, students need to realize that faculty decide which books will be used for courses. It is up to faculty members to use the books. What is the point in spending \$100 for a book that will never be opened. Faculty can help students pay less for books by keeping the same book for few years. This way, students can buy used.

If faculty is going to use photocopies of chapters from various books, could they can ask the Bookstore to make photocopies of said chapters as well as bind the pages into a much less expensive version of a book.

The Bookstore operates on a 20% margin, a figure which is decided by the University's Board of Governors. "I think students would be quite surprised to know what the forecasted profits for the 1995-96 school year are," Morin continued as he pulled out a copy of his budget. The bottom line profit is \$5,592, after sales, operating costs, salaries and other bills are paid.

Comparisons between bookstores are fine but students must realize that volume buying is also a

factor in prices. If four students are taking a course at Laurentian and 50 students are taking the similar course at the University of Toronto with the same required book, it only stands to reason that the U of T bookstore will charge less for the text.

Comments regarding customer service are of great concern to Morin. Customer service is his main priority and he is the process of implementing various policies to improve the Bookstore in that area.

Students are encouraged to speak to Morin when they have concerns be it regarding books, memorabilia, customer service or anything else.

SPACE FOR RANT

Dear Sir,

It is with great pleasure that I write you this letter as a student of Laurentian University. I wish to extend my sincerest thanks to you for not only contacting me this past spring and encouraging me to attend this fine institution, but also for the follow-up letter of September 14. No other university offered this friendly and outgoing approach presented by Laurentian to attract prospective students - a outgoing approach that genuinely embodies the mission statement here at LU. This personal invitation became the first of two reasons for me to travel north for my education. The second was the constant praise I heard for Dr. Persinger and his Neuroscience program (in which I am now enrolled). The article on Dr. Persinger in the August/95 edition of Equinox truly reflects the quality of faculty and programs that this school has to offer. After attending Dr. Persinger's Introduction to Psychology class, I find him to surpass everything that was said, and written, about him. He is a fascinating speaker and keeps the undivided attention of the class every second that he is lecturing. As well as Psychology, my first year courses consist of Calculus, Biology, Chemistry and Physics - a workload that is quite heavy, yet very enjoyable. In particular, I enjoy Dr. da Silva's Biology lectures, and I find Professor Robb to be a very knowledgeable and enlightening speaker. Overall, my experiences at Laurentian thus far have been very enjoyable, both academic and social, and I look forward not only to the academic year in progress, but also to future years of study. Again, my sincerest thank you for your warm invitation to Laurentian University.

Respectfully yours,
Bruce McKay

Dear Dr. Paul:

As has been reported in the media and repeated by a number of stakeholders, including university administrator, the spending reductions and reforms to post-secondary education announced yesterday in Finance Minister Ernie Eves' financial statement promise to change the way universities function at every level. While it must be strongly stated that the Students' General Association is adamantly opposed to the actions of the Harris government in raising tuition and threatening quality and accessibility of education at Laurentian, we are equally resolved to ensure that the rights of our students are protected within the unfortunate climate we find ourselves in.

This morning (November 30) you announced that Laurentian University would be taking full advantage of the 10% deregulated discretionary fee on top of the mandatory 10% increase in tuition.

The Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario strongly supports the right of their member associations to appoint "24% student membership to all university and college governing councils and committees" (twenty-four being the average percentage of university revenue generated through tuition fees). Whereas the SGA Believes in this policy in so far as it ensures democracy and accountability within our universities, and whereas tuition fees at Laurentian will now account for roughly 30% of the University budget, it is the position of this association that student representation on all university governing bodies and all student related committees be adjusted commensurately to reflect the increased revenue generated from students.

At this point in time, the SGA is attempting to evaluate how the reforms announced by Mr. Eves will affect our membership. We are concerned about affordability, accessibility, the spectre of additional deregulation and how internal down-sizing will manifest itself, especially as it may affect quality of education. We will continue to develop our plans and shall anticipate future consultation with you in the weeks to come.

Sincerely,
Troy Whetstone President, Students' General Association

Dear Editor,

I am a third year, part-time student here at Laurentian, and have always enjoyed Lambda. I don't know if it has just been the past few years, or always, but it seems to me that the paper has always been a place for people to vent their frustrations with the administration, the government, the caf and just about anything also they can think of.

Lately, there have been quite a few articles, both by contributors and columnists regarding the Sudbury Transit. These I have followed quite a bit, because in addition to being a part-time students, I am also off-campus. I live in the middle of the city, work at one end and go to school at the other. Needless to say, I rely on the Transit System a lot.

The recent and unexpected hikes and the skimpy schedule aside, I would like to relate to you something that happened to me [last week]. I was standing outside, waiting for the bus. My radio had just told me it was -17 C with a wind chill colder than that. Even though I am a born-and-bred Sudburian, that's plenty cold enough for me. I had about decided that the bus was never going to come, and should just walk, since I was frozen to the bone anyway, when, lo, over the horizon, I spot the Great Green Limo. As it drew near, however, my heart sank, for there, in big bold yellow letters were the words "NOT IN SERVICE".

Now I don't know if it was the weather, my probably pathetic looking expression, or just a warm heart, (or perhaps a bit of all three) but that kind-hearted bus driver sopped and let me on the bus. She gave me a free ride downtown. Yes, I said free.

So for all those out there who thought all bus drivers are mean, spiteful evil little creatures, NOT SO! I never got the driver's name, but I do thank her for starting my say off so nicely. I hope everyone has such a great morning.

Merry Christmas, 'Tis the Season, Y'all, so pass on the good cheer.
Samantha Atkinson

Lambda Staff

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Write to us but remember...

Letters submitted must bear the author's full name and telephone number. Names will be withheld upon request. Letters must not be longer than 250 words. Lambda reserves the right to edit for content considered sexist, racist, homophobic, heterosexist or for length.

Enter Stage Right

by Gord Gekko
Columnist

Well, we've had a week to digest the mini-budget as presented by Ernie Eves. As I look over my scratch pad filled with the figures announced last Wednesday one thing strikes me, how long it took us to realize that we had to do this. The cuts announced last week was not the result of some capricious desire to harm some people in this province. They were not a game for the rich of this Ontario, something designed to provide some entertainment. The mini-budget illustrated why it is essential to stop the out of control spending.

Did you know that we spend one-million more dollars an hour than we take in in revenue? You didn't? I bet you demand more money for post-secondary institutions. I bet you whine every time a tuition increase comes along. Do you know that as a province we are approaching \$100 billion

dollars of debt? I bet that doesn't stop some of you from saying, "I have a right to whatever I want and this province be damned if someone else is tired of paying for it!"

It's easy to imagine that you have a right to whatever you want. It's also cheap since someone else (for a while) pays for it. Social assistance? No problem, the rich have to be made to pay for something! Health care? I have a right to health care because I need it. Education? How dare you tell me that you're tired of paying for my education! (Do you even know how much it *really* costs everyone for your one year of schooling? Take your tuition figure and multiply it by at least five...and you have a right to simply take that from someone?)

The cuts are right on two levels. The first is obvious. Ontario can no longer continue on its course of out of control spending. The level of debt and taxation is choking off any real economic growth. The level of growth in any economy is always hampered by high taxation. It's a fallacy to suggest that these cuts will

cause unemployment when the spending being cut is also contributing to the unemployment rate. When a significant portion of income, be it personal or corporate, goes to finance government, then job creation can never happen in any real sense.

The second reason is one that I've touched upon in several columns recently. Philosophically, it is immoral to take income from the producers of this province (and country) against their will. No one can make any argument that taxation is moral when someone does not agree with how their money is being spent. You do not have the right to take someone else's money to subsidize your life. Most people today believe it is right to promote class warfare by suggesting that the well off must be divested of a large portion of their production to give to someone else. I don't care if you term it redistribution of income or "the rich must be made to pay," it is immoral. You have no right to take someone else's production.

Perhaps I'm getting too philosophical. Most people don't



think in terms of morality except to say that it is immoral to live by one's means and ability. Perhaps it's best left to the basics. The cuts in provincial spending are necessary because we can no longer continue this massive level of spending and debt. While the cuts may hurt, and they will affect everyone regardless of income, they are absolutely necessary. The provincial government displayed an unprecedented level of bravery by recognizing it and making the decisions they did. I'm sure that Harris knows that each cut results in lost support, but instead of making half-hearted cuts like their federal counterparts, they opted for real change and for that they should be

commended.

I'm afraid that I'm not going to convince anyone with this piece so perhaps I'll label this as a call to arms to those who are responsible. The coming months will not be easy, but if you support real change and this government then do not be afraid of standing up and supporting the Harris government. The people of this province voted for the Progressive Conservatives and their plan. At the PC fund-raiser with Harris (and why didn't I get a ticket?) A sign was held saying, "Harris? Dictator? No Consultation." The consultation, my friends, was with the electorate. That's all we need.

TALES FROM THE LEFT

by Ray Marks
Columnist

On Wednesday, November 29th I sat in a corner of the Student Centre observing from a distance the group of students that had gathered to watch the Economic Statement being delivered by Ernie Eves. As I slowly made my way through the crowd I heard some comments and chuckles from a few well known Tory supporters on campus. I had to do a double take to see if it was Ernie Eves they were laughing with and not Lowell Greene.

When I got to my car (this was no time for music) I turned it to CBC Radio and listened to the rest of the Economic Statement or "Mini-Budget."

Nothing mini about it for it cut more out of provincial spending than any budget I have seen. Now I'm quite sure the majority of you are familiar with the areas of the cuts.

In the new year, we can expect to see city taxes rise sharply and user fees be imposed on municipal services. "Make no mistake about it, the taxpayer is going to pay," said Mayor Jim Gordon. Everything from public transit, libraries, conservation areas, environmental protection, the arts... and the list goes on, have been affected.

But there are three major areas that upset me the most: education, health care and municipalities.

University tuitions are increasing by 10% next year with the



possibility of an extra 10%. What sort of legacy are we going to leave our children? The steady increases are simply going to squeeze more people out of the system by not allowing them to receive the education they deserve. The numerous business associations and chambers of commerce are saying the cuts are a step in the right direction. What they are not taking into consideration is that if people are going to pay more in city taxes and in sending their children to university or college they are not going to purchase items such as a new computer, a snowmobile or even a winter coat.

Mike Harris is a liar! This is something the opposition cried out last week and is something I believe

is true. Time and time again during the election campaign they said that "not one penny of health care would be touched." Five months later they give us \$1.3 billion dollars in cuts to hospitals.

In block letters, Common Sense Revolution "No new user fees will be introduced." In the Economic Statement we saw many new user fees for prescription drugs for seniors, welfare recipients and the poor.

What is happening to Ontario is that institutions that we value are being dismantled for the sake of a belief in a revolution. This government is based on an ideology with reducing the deficit as its main objective. The Marshall Plan was not implemented because of an ideology

and neither is foreign aid.

The Tories are purposely creating unemployment and even targeting their best friends, by cutting grants to business. Many civil servants are now wishing that the Rae Days were still around.

What this Economic Statement is doing is gearing up for the tax cuts that they were elected on. The expected tax cut will cost the provincial government \$5 billion dollars in revenues. Therefore, we can count \$3 billion in cuts out of mean spiritness and \$5 billion in cuts because of the need to prepare for the tax cuts. The tax cuts by the way are going to the richest 10% in Ontario. They promised it during the election and now they will have to deliver in April or May when the real budget is introduced.

The raucous that was raised by the opposition was mostly not towards the Economic Statement but because of Bill 26 that was sneaked in when nobody was looking.

What Bill 26 does is take away from democracy and gives DICTATORIAL powers to the ministry of health and of municipal affairs. If this bill passes they will have the right to suspend payments to hospitals, and doctors, close hospitals,

suspend payment to the drug plan and force doctors to work where they don't want to. It takes away too many powers from too many people. The bill benefits the teeth kicking republican committee members. A revolution becomes dictatorship when Bill 26 is passed in the amount of time the Tories want it to be. Make no mistake about it, the Tory backbenchers and their constituents will see rights and powers disappear and gives them to the cabinet and hopefully will not scared to express their opposition. If they did not plan to cut any funding to health care why is this bill being introduced?

The Tory government has created a grave error and we in the left will continue to oppose their agenda. Roosevelt has just turned over in his grave and our social evolution has just taken a u-turn.

Welcome to the new Ontario where democracy is perverted and the most vulnerable are the ones targeted. I hope despite this you will have a Merry X-mas and a Happy New Year.



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The Amiable Librarian

This column is based on questions or suggestions received by staff members of the Desmarais Library either personally or on the "Complaints/Questions/Suggestions" form that may be filled out near the exit of the library.

Question: I've noticed that the library's Internet F.A.Q. is out of date since you can no longer access ABI Inform via the University of Hawaii. What do I do now?

Reply: There's an old saying that when the Lord closes a door He opens a window. Well, that's exactly what seems to have happened in this case. While it is true that ABI Inform is no longer available over the Internet it has just been made accessible through Lexis-Nexis, one of the Amiable Librarian's favourite data sources. ABI Inform, for those in the know, is a spectacular collection

of data useful in both business and economics. And the good news is that while the bibliographic references on ABI Inform begin in 1971, there is full text coverage on Lexis-Nexis since 1991. That is more than could ever have been obtained through the Net. Old timers (people around Laurentian for more two years) will recall that the library used to have a vast collection of CD's containing the full text of articles retrieved on ABI Inform. These couldn't be kept because they would cost the library \$25,000 per year — one twenty-fifth the cost of the Lexis-Nexis subscription. No wonder the Amiable Librarian has a smile these days.

Question: I want to know about Lexis-Nexis, and I can never seem to catch up with the Amiable Librarian to ask my questions.

Reply: Lexis-Nexis has an

address on the Internet that will tell you more than you ever wanted to know about the service. As the \$ prompt, type: **Lynx http://www.lexis-nexis.com** By the way, if you have your own subscription to L-N, (still available for \$30.00 or \$50.00 depending on the service you want, you can phone the company's toll free line in Ohio: 1-800-553-3685. Have your password ready.

Question: Why is it that I was asked to leave one of the rooms (311) when my friend was looking for books on the third floor. I realize two are needed to use the room but only one other room was being used. After when I walked around the library most were vacant. The library is noisy and these are the only places to read in quiet.

Reply: The Amiable Librarian sympathizes with your plight — it does seem a bit harsh to kick you out when other rooms were vacant. However, if the library established a policy that rooms could be reserved for one person alone, it would soon run out of rooms and the library would become noisier than ever. The reason the library may seem noisy now is that the very persons who should be reserving these rooms are not doing so. They have in fact been set aside so groups could



meet together and talk all they want. Any reader who likes to talk can pick up a key for these rooms at the Circulation Desk. There is of course, no charge.

Comment: Reference material and books are left on tables with notes telling the staff not to reshelve them. I have searched for five days for two specific reference books that I found today under someone's note...I would suggest that any material not being used be reshelfed.

Reply: The Amiable Librarian shares your frustration about missing books. The library is not however, prepared to pick up everything in sight for the reason that some folks who needed material which does not circulate might resort to hiding it so no one could get it. As a compromise, the staff will let students keep material on a desk 24 hours at time. If the material is there longer than 24 hours, it will be picked up and reshelfed as you suggest.



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Bilingual Week

by William T. Brydges

SGA - V.P. Communication

Well bilingual week is over and I find myself wondering, was it all worth it. I mean, we all believe in the bilingual aspect of this University, don't we? As I experienced last week, there is not much anyone can do to promote bilingualism. The francophones say that the ratio between anglo's and themselves is not even. As a result they believe that French should be promoted and not

bilingualism since English would be promoted in the process. Whereas, the anglophones seem to have very little time or interest in anything that involves the other official language.

This was very apparent during bilingualism week, especially during the game show event. As I was hosting the event I would entice the audience members to participate, informing them that they had a chance to win \$200.

Well, for all those who did not participate four students won \$50 each and four more won \$25 and

were entertained in the process.

It seems that this 10% minority should be congratulated since they were able to break down the barriers put up between these two linguistic groups. Bilingualism does not mean that you can speak both French and English. Rather, it's the understanding that both can co-exist within a community and that in the end they will compliment each other. We should be proud of bilingualism here at Laurentian, since it set us apart from a great majority of Canadian universities.

The Firearm Myth

by Martin St. Jacques
Contributor

As a responsible gun owner, I cannot help but to feel utterly disappointed with the recent approval of the liberal government's gun legislation. I cannot see in any way how this bill will in any way reduce crime. In fact, it has the potential to increase violence throughout Canada. Please let me elaborate.

First and foremost, how can this bill reduce domestic violence? Does Alan Rock seriously believe that the perpetrator of this crime will have second thoughts of using a gun because it is registered to his name? Personally, it seems ludicrous to think that a thought process is involved in this type of crime. The only "good" that this bill can provide is the information

to police officers entering a home where it is known that firearms are present. This brings me to a second point.

The Police Chiefs Association approve the National Gun Registry for it is a way to ensure the safety of their officers. I agree. However, the generated list can potentially increase black market gun trading. Since nearly every household has access to a computer; thus it is not inconceivable that hackers may attempt to get entry to the registry. Thieves may, or rather certainly will, target those households containing firearms. Therefore, break and enter crimes may increase. As you can see, another domino falls as a chain of crime is created.

The new gun control legislation was put in place for one lone reason: money! It has been proposed to charge an early bird fee of \$10.00 for every firearm. I personally own four guns and plan to purchase a few more in the near future. Now forty dollars is not an outrageous fee. However, I know of some friends

and family who own fifteen or more firearms. Thus you can see how this bill is perceived by legitimate gun owners as a money grab.

You may wonder why so many rifles for one household. Most were past down through generations and are considered heirlooms. Not one of these guns are restricted or prohibited and all are or have been used for hunting purposes. All of these guns are properly stored and cared for yet the liberal government believes that they are dangerous.

To conclude, I'd like to congratulate Alan Rock and all the lobby groups (You know who you are) that have supported this bill. You have managed to isolate and label responsible citizens as potential threats. Your blindness to the real root of crime will create more frustration amongst your constituents. However, you are right in one way. We ARE threatening because we have the power to vote. Trust me, we will remember and we will be heard.

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The League of Canadian Poets invites all Canadians to participate in the nation's biggest annual poetry competition. Prizes of \$1,000, \$750, and \$500 will be awarded for the top three poems. Poems must be unpublished, not exceed 75 lines, typed, single-sided on plain white paper, numbered, not stapled. Entrant's name, address, and phone number should appear on separate cover page (not on entries). Entry fee is \$6 per poem (cheque or money order payable to the League of Canadian Poets). Include SASE for information on the winners, entries will not be returned. Deadline: January 31, 1996. Mail to: The Ninth National Poetry Contest, League of Canadian Poets, 54 Wolseley Street, Suite 204, Toronto, Ontario, M5T 1A5.

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Entries must be postmarked on or before Dec. 31, 1995. Winners will be notified by Feb. 15, 1995. Entries will not be returned. The Humanist in Canada Magazine reserves the right of publication and will publish selected winning essays. Questions concerning contest will be answered @ (416) 485-5161 or Compuserve 752570,210

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Compliments of: Food Services Committee Laurentian University

RICE PUDDING

2 cups	Rice, cooked	500 ml
1/4 cup	Sugar	50 ml
1/4 tsp	Salt	1 ml
1/4 cup	Raisins	50 ml
1 cup	Skim milk powder	250 ml
1 1/2 cup	Water	375 ml
1 tbsp	Margarine	15 ml
1 1/2 tsp	Vanilla	7 ml

1. In a saucepan, add sugar, salt, raisins, dry milk, 1 1/2 cup (375 ml) water and margarine to cooked rice. Mix well.
2. Cook, uncovered, over low heat, stirring occasionally until pudding is creamy (about 20 minutes).
3. Stir in vanilla. Serve warm or cold.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Grown-Up Christmas List

*Do you remember me, I sat upon your knee
I wrote to you of childhood fantasies.
Well I'm all grown up now and still need help somehow.
I'm not a child but my heart still can dream.
So here's my lifelong wish,
My grown-up Christmas list,
not for myself but for a world in need.*

*No more lives torn apart,
That wars would never start,
And time would heal all hearts.
Everyone would have a friend
And right would always win
And love would never end.
This is grown-up Christmas list.*

*As children we believe the grandest sight to see
Was something lovely wrapped beneath the tree.
Well Heaven surely knows that packages and bow,
Can never heal a hurting human soul.*

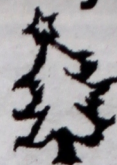
*No more lives torn apart,
That wars would never start,
And time would heal all hearts.
Everyone would have a friend
And right would always win
And love would never end.
This is my grown-up Christmas list.*

*What is this illusion called, the innocence of youth
Only in our blind belief can we ever find truth.*

Night Before Christmas (90's Style)



A Christmas Poem



'Twas the night before Christmas and
Santa's a wreck...
How to live in a world that's
politically correct?
His workers no longer answer as
"Elves."

"Vertically challenged" they were
calling themselves.
And labour conditions at the North
Pole
Were alleged by the union to stifle
the soul.

Four reindeer had vanished, without
much propriety,
Released to the wilds by the Humane
Society.
And equal employment had made it
clear
That Santa had better not just use
reindeer.

So Dancer and Donner, Comet and
Cupid
Were replaced with 4 pigs, you know
that looked stupid!

The runners had been removed from
his sleigh;
The ruts were termed dangerous by
the E.P.A.
And people had started to call the
cops
When they heard sled noises on their
roof-tops.

Second-hand smoke from his pipe
had his workers quite frightened.
His fur trimmed red suit was called
"Unenlightened."

And to show you the strangeness of
his life's ebbs and flows,

Rudolf was suing over unauthorized
use of his nose
And had gone on Geraldo, in front of
the nation,
Demanding millions in over-due
compensation.

So, half of the reindeer were gone;
and his wife,
Who suddenly said she'd enough of
this life.
Joined a self-help group, packed, and
left in a whiz.
Demanding from now on her title
was Ms.

And as for the gifts, why, he'd ne'er
had a notion
That making a choice could cause so
much commotion.

Nothing of leather, nothing of fur,
Which meant nothing for him And
nothing for her.
Nothing that might be construed to
pollute.

Nothing to aim. Nothing to shoot.
Nothing that clamored or made lots
of noise.

Nothing for just girls. Or just for
boys.
Nothing that claimed to be gender
specific.

Nothing that's warlike or non-pacific.

No candy or sweets...they were bad
for the tooth.

Nothing that seemed to embellish the
truth.

And fairy tales, while not yet
forbidden,

Were like Ken and Barbie, better off

hidden.
For they raised the hackles of those
psychological
Who claimed the only good gift was
one ecological.

No baseball, no football...someone
could get hurt;
Besides, playing sports exposed kids
to dirt.
Dolls were said to be sexist, and
should be passe;
And Nintendo would rot your entire
brain away.

So Santa just stood there, disheveled,
perplexed;
He just could not figure out what to
do next.

He tried to be merry, tried to be gay,
But you've got to be careful with that
word today.
his sack was quite empty, limp to the
ground;
Nothing fully acceptable was to be
found.

Something special was needed, a gift
that he might
Give to all without angering the left
or the right.

A gift that would satisfy, with no
indecision,
Each group of people, every religion;
Every ethnicity, every hue,
Everyone everywhere...even you.
So here is that gift, it's price beyond
worth...

"May you and your loved ones enjoy
peace on earth."

Christmas: Another X-Files Conspiracy ?!?

by Stefano F. Presenza
Staff Writer

Anyone that has worked in
retail as long as I have will be able to
confirm that our most favourite time
of the year, Christmas, is one of the
busiest times of the year, often
planned several weeks in advance, to

Nick himself joins us exactly one
week later, inaugurated by Golden
Griddle's Pancake Breakfast!

Although that sweet maple
syrup soothes my sweet tooth, I find
it doesn't do much for the increase in
personal stress levels caused by
crowding of school assignments, mid-
term exams and of course, the hustle
and bustle of Christmas shoppers
attacking the Nevada booth where I
work. Whenever I get a chance to
breathe, I reflect upon the notion that
perhaps Christmas is actually a
planned conspiracy:
retailers are psychically
linked to professors, and
both are out to minimize
our free time and
maximize our stress
levels!

Although I realize
this idea to be as absurd
as the alien conspiracy,
perhaps careful
examination shall prove
otherwise. It is now
widely accepted that
Christmas has been
highly commercialized.

One must stroll through any of the
major retail centers to observe the
lovely rainbow of Christmas lights
and attractive decorations of holly
and mistletoe. Add to that the cheerful
carols played across the mall, several
sweet little elves coaxing you to take
your picture on Santa's lap, and yes,

shouts of "HO! HO! HO! Merry
Christmas!" from the North Pole's
VIP himself, and you get a heart-
warming atmosphere of yuletide
cheer.

Now don't get me wrong, I
like Christmas carols as much as the
next guy. Unfortunately for me, being
an L.U. student means trying to make
financial ends meet. This means that
although Joe Blow consumer hears
Deck the Halls once per hour, I get to
hear *Jingle Bells* over 350 times a
week! It's all part of the Christmas

conspiracy to get my stress levels up
a few decibels. Of course, retailers
do their share by having unbeatable
2-for-1 sales around, wouldn't you
guess it, my Nevada Booth! (And no,
buying \$20 of Nevadas will NOT
ensure a \$100 winner!).

Colleges and universities
run their own little game designed to
once again limit students' (that is,
our) precious time, and send our blood
pressure through the roof. Have you
ever noticed how the number of
assignments you have due increases
exponentially with each additional
Christmas shopping day that passes?
Not to mention how December exams
always fall just days before December
the 25th.

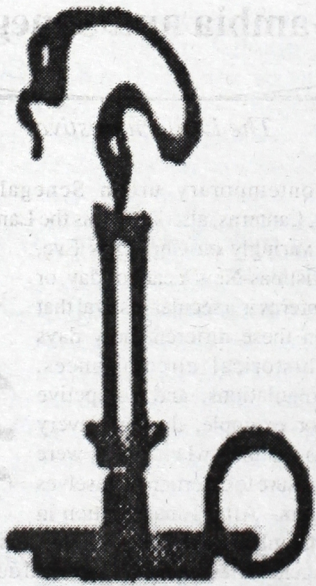
Professors realize that there
is an increase in population density in
shopping malls, and therefore have
planned tactics to keep us students
away from retail stores across the
city (except, of course, the lucky ones
of us who get to spread the festive
cheer in the workplace!) Let's face it,
they've got it down to a simple
formula: Exams + extra workload =
students out of the way. I do find it
conspicuous that several chemistry
professors have been spotted at the
New Sudbury Shopping Centre in the
past few weeks!

And what is my advice to all
of this, you ask? Well my fellow
students, we're on to them. That's
the first step in thwarting the



Christmas conspiracy. Now that we
know the truth about what's out there,
we can convene in the one place
retailers and profs will never suspect
us to be: the classroom. I realize it
will be a difficult thing for all of us,
but we must realize that the faculty is
on the look out for us in the halls, the
retailers are on the look out for us in
the malls, and nobody will ever
suspect that we will be attending our
last week of class!

By the way, did I ever tell
you about the New Year's
Conspiracy...



Christmas Across The Cultures From A-Z

Christmas

This day commemorates the birth of the Christian Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth. Because of calendar changes, Eastern Orthodox countries still remember Christmas as occurring on January 6. That date is termed "Old Christmas" in some areas. Christmas celebrations range from a quiet religious observance to the rowdy carnivalesque masquerading of several Caribbean islands. The addition of a gift-bearing Santa Claus to the day originally set to celebrate the Christ Child's birth seems mainly connected with American and British traditions. Elsewhere, children receive their gifts on December 6 or January 6, though the influence of the Santa Claus tradition is felt in many places today.

Armenia

Christmas morning

On Christmas morning all the Armenians go to church, and after dinner begin the customary visits and greetings of the season. Usually two of the members of the family stay at home to receive the visitors while the others make the calls; then they



change their turn so that, during the three days of greeting, all neighbors are able to visit each other. The visitor enters the house saying "Greetings! Christ is born!" The host replies, "Greetings to the whole world!" Upon this, the visitor is received with respect, and entertained with refreshments.

They have no Christmas tree and do not exchange presents on Christmas day. Their Santa Claus comes on New Year's Eve instead of Christmas Eve, for Christmas is a sacred day and is passed with greetings and festivals of joy.

Australia

Christmas in Australia, c. 1958



Gifts are exchanged at the breakfast table in some families. Christmas services at the church follow. The Christmas dinner may be roast beef or a fowl. The Christmas Bush is popular for decorating homes; it is a bush with tiny flowers that grow in soft clusters. The Christmas Bell, a bell-shaped flower fringed in yellow, is also popular.

Carols by Candlelight

A Melbourne radio announcer, Norman Banks, started the tradition of Carols by Candlelight in 1937. According to the story, he passed an open window and saw an old woman sitting alone by a radio, holding a lighted candle and softly singing along with the Christmas carols. He started the community caroling tradition the next year, and it has become a national favourite event.

Brazil

Making Pesebres

Manger scenes are often made of brightly coloured sawdust. Each day from Christmas until Epiphany (January 6), the figures are moved a step nearer to the Christ Child. Epiphany itself is celebrated with firecrackers and is the end of the Christmas season.



France

La Veillé du petit Jésus (the Watch Night for the Baby Jesus) in Besançon, c. 1900

In France, the gift-day is on New Year's Day, Christmas being toy-day.

In every home, the little Infant Jesus comes down the chimney in and fills little shoes, that have been placed in the fireplace the night before, with bonbons, oranges, and toys. That night before—la veillé du Petit Jésus, the Watch Night—is, for some, sweeter than Christmas Day itself. After supper, all the family gathers in the drawing-room in front of the chimney, that blazes with a jolly wood fire. The tree, a fresh green fir-tree, is behind a screen in the corner, but they are not permitted to look at it before morning. La tronche de Noël (The Yule Log) is a big hollow branch of oak filled with sweets and arranged so that the heat of the fireplace releases a spring and explodes a little powder that sends chocolates, bonbons, and sweets out for everyone to gather up. At midnight the bells toll and the Watch is over. They



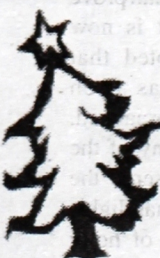
attend church and the children are then put to bed. The next morning there are gifts in the chimney and the children are allowed to gaze upon the tree. With its silver and gold paper garlands, bright stars, globes, icicles, apples, pears, nuts and hundreds of tiny candles ready to be lit for the evening.

The Christmas joys were not over with Christmas day. The festival lasts until New Year's day.

Gambia and Senegal

The Lantern Festival

In contemporary urban Senegal and Gambia (Senegambia), Lanterns, also known as the Lantern festivals or Fanal is held variously on Christmas Eve, during the Christmas-New Year holiday, or Ramadan. Lanterns is a secular festival that takes place on these different holy days because of historical circumstances, government regulations, and competitive activities. For example, during slavery Christmas was the time when slaves were permitted the leisure to entertain themselves and their masters. After Emancipation in Senegal and Gambia, there was no impetus to change the holiday, and a general festive spirit prevailed during the season. While Lanterns takes place during Christmas or Ramadan, it is not essentially religious.



Lanterns is characterized by the building of lanterns, which are most often constructed on a wooden frame and covered with elaborately patterned cut paper resembling fine filigree. They are traditionally illuminated by candles placed inside them. The lanterns are paraded in the streets and ultimately offered to important local residents for a monetary reward. There are usually two types of lanterns. Individual lanterns are made in a variety of forms and are paraded by their owners, who hold them in the hand. There is also a monumental lantern built by an organization of young people. It is then either carried by about eight men or placed on a wheeled platform



Germany

Possible Origins of the Christmas Tree

The most popular idea nowadays is that the custom is a remnant of the old tree-worship. Others believe it to be of Christian origin. The 24th of December is the day of Adam and Eve. From there to the tree bearing the fruit of knowledge it is not far. In the New Testament, Jesus is often called a branch of the root of David. These pictures were familiar to all classes in the Middle Ages. Some sought for the origin in the seven-branched candlestick of the Jewish temple, but not one of these assumptions is well founded. In legend we also find many tales relating to it. Whenever you trace the origin of the Christmas-tree outside Germany, you find that it has been introduced from the fatherland. Up to the year 1840 Great Britain did not know it. It was the Prince Consort Albert of Sachsen-Cougo who brought it to the Court of St. James. From there it slowly found its way through the aristocracy and the wealthier merchant classes to the whole of the city of London. Nowadays the custom of having a Christmas-tree is very common all over England.



Greece

Christmas kalendas in Greece

Early on the morning of Christmas Eve, children go from house to house singing kalendas, or carols. Boys sing, accompanied by small triangles and clay drums. The children are given buns or nuts in reward.



Hungary

Christmas Eve Dinner

On Christmas Eve, as soon as the first star gleams in the sky, the Hungarian family sits down to an abundant, though meatless meal. Cabbage soup, fish, noodles, cakes shaped like horse-shoes and filled with poppy seed or walnuts, twisted Christmas bread, "bobajka" or dumplings sprinkled with poppy seed and sugar, strudel and nuts are traditional dishes for this occasion. The gaiety and feasting continues till near midnight, when people flock to church to attend the Christmas mass.



Iraq

A Coptic Christmas in Iraq

On Christmas Eve Coptic families gather in the courtyard, holding lighted candles, while one of the children reads the story of the Nativity in Arabic. A bonfire of thorns is then lit. If the thorns all turn to ashes, good fortune will be in store for the family. Each person jumps over the ashes three times, making a wish.



On Christmas day, a thorn fire is lit at the church. A procession of the Baby Jesus carried on a scarlet cushion follows. Last of all the Bishop touches a congregation member with "The Touch of Peace." This person passes it to the next, and so on throughout the congregation.

Japan

Stocking Hung By The Bathtub



Parents, peers, teachers and the mass media collaborate to inform the young about Santa Claus and his visit. The stockings are hung by a fireplace in a typical Japanese house, so parents can place presents by the children's pillows during the night. Some of the more literal-minded transfer Clement Moore's chimney motif to the closest Japanese counterpart, the pipe of the bathtub stove. And the stockings are hung by the bathtub with care. (The Japanese word *entotsu* is a generic for many forms of waste-gas conveying tube that are distinguished in English as chimney, Stovepipe, and so on.)



Malaysia (Sarawak)

Christmas Afloat in Sarawak

On Christmas Eve, in Sarawak, a service is held in the church, which stands on stilts at the edge of the water. At its close the young people, dressed in white and carrying lighted candles, climb down the notched pole that leads to the wharf below. They clamber into boats and paddle up and down the river, which serves as the village street. At the wharf of each member of the congregation, they stop and sing carols, ending with the greeting, "Selamat hari Kristmas," "Merry Christmas." The householders are waiting for them and they set off firecrackers of every shape and size as their part of the ceremony. The singing goes on until midnight and then the young people return home for family celebrations.



Romania

Making turte and threatening the fruit trees

The Christmas festivities begin on the twenty-fourth of December, the last of Advent, which is also a holiday. On that day Turte are eaten in every household. This is a special kind of cake and is made of many layers of thin dough with melted sugar or honey and pounded walnut. Sometimes bruised hempseed is used instead of sugar. The turte are prepared the previous day. In the midst of her kneading the dough, the housewife walks in to the yard followed by her husband who holds an ax. They approach a tree and he threatens to cut it down. "It seems to me this tree is useless; it bears no fruit," he says. The wife speaks up to save the tree. "Oh no," she says, "I am sure it will be as full of fruit next summer as my fingers are full of dough." They pass on to the next tree where the dialogue is repeated, and so on until many trees are visited. The man threatens, the woman saves each tree that they want to coax into fruit-bearing.



While this is clearly a pagan ceremonial, the remnant of some old custom, the turte into which the dough is made is supposed to represent the swaddling clothes of the infant Christ. Thus are paganism and Christianity brought together.

South Africa

Christmas in South Africa

Christmas in South Africa is celebrated on December 25, in much the same manner as the rest of the Christian world. Christmas falls shortly after the winter solstice, when in the Northern Hemisphere, the night is longest. The birth of Christ thus symbolizes the passing of the world's longest night of preparation and the coming of a new day. Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve, and church services on Christmas Day are well attended.

U.S.S.R./Russia

Christmas Gifts in Russia

In Russia Christmas gift exchanges were not a tradition. God-children sang carols to their godparents, the girls on Christmas Eve and the boys on Christmas morning. A traditional dish of rice and wheat with nuts and a jug of home-brewed mead were presented to priests and godparents. This is the end of a forty-day fast for the pious Orthodox, during which fat, meat and eggs are forbidden.



Venezuela

Christmas Eve Skating in Caracas

After midnight on Christmas, Eve the Avenida de los Caibos fill with hundreds of teenaged rollerskaters. They skate for an hour or more, until a special early morning Mass. Folk music greets them at the church door. After Mass, they skate home and consume a hearty Christmas breakfast, featuring *hallacas*. This is a spiced meat pastry with cornmeal crust, wrapped in a banana leaves and boiled.



Zaire

Christmas in Zaire, c. 1964

The singing of carols and the dramatization of the Christmas story mark the festive season among the Christians in Zaire's villages. A palm branch shelter is made for the Holy Family and decorated with flowers. When it is time for the play to begin, the drum beats out the call "Come, see, some, see" Visitors are greeted with a cheery "Yo, yo! Yo, yo!"

The whole village may take part in the drama, men and women lining up before the "tax collectors" at the start. Joseph and Mary appear and are told there is no room in any house for them. They go to the palm branch shelter. A cradle is there with a real baby in it. Soon shepherds appear with some live goats and they make their bows to the little family. Then come the Wise Men, wearing costumes of artistically twisted scarves of bright colours and carrying black native pots and gourds.



"Take a walk on the Board Walk" Parker Brother raises Monopoly Stakes

by Anjali Kapoor
CUP - Gazette

The wheeling and dealing involved in a game like Monopoly is something associated with rainy days at the cottage or family weekends. However, the game board had developed a cult-like following as thousands of people attempt to compete and qualify for the title of World Monopoly Champion.

For over 40 years Parker Brothers, the manufacturers of Monopoly, have held a World Monopoly Tournament every four years and awarded the winner a whopping total of \$15,140 US.

"The prize awarded for the world championships is the exact amount of money [found] in a Monopoly game," Marionne Diemer, director of marketing services at Parker Brothers in Canada.

In order to qualify for the World Monopoly Tournament, Parker Brothers holds a series of regional and national tournaments across Canada, the United States, and Europe. During the past September four regional championships were held in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver, Diemer explains.

"In each regional contest there are preliminary rounds of the game and then the winners at each table play in the semi-finals," Diemer says. "From there the four players with the highest assets play in the finals against the current regional champions."

The regional champions will then play in the National Canadian Championship in Toronto. "The Canadian fly to Monte Carlo in Monaco in 1996 to compete with 40 other players from 40 other countries," Diemer says.

It is intriguing that a board game first presented in 1935, during the Depression era, has remained so popular for decades. Donna Piasentini, manager of communications for Parker Brothers in Canada, says the game has a loyal following of Monopoly lovers everywhere. "Monopoly is an icon - it's part of North American lore. Historically, [the game] is based on the basic principles of capitalism," she says.



The fact the game is produced in 25 languages and sold in over 45 different countries attests to its popularity. "The sales [of the game] speak for themselves - not only are we keeping up our sales, but we're there already," Piasentini says.

In Canada alone, sales of the Monopoly game have been extensive throughout the years. Wendy Eves, an employee of the operations department at the head office of the toy store Toys 'R' Us in Toronto, says the standard Monopoly game is a popular board game in the stores. "In 1994, Toys 'R' Us sold approximately 21,455 standard Monopoly board games in English across Canada and have sold 7,653 this year to date.

Peter Gordon, senior associate editor at Games magazine in New York, says he started playing Monopoly at the young age of six. "My earliest memories include Monopoly," he says. Gordon, a former MIT university Monopoly champion, says he feels it is

more than just a game. "I take monopoly very seriously. [The game] is life, really. What else is there?"

Not surprisingly, for Monopoly enthusiasts the game has developed into more than just a casual board game played with friends. Serious Monopoly are extremely competitive and have even developed their own strategies on how to play the game. Diemer says the Monopoly tournaments at all levels, from regional to the world, can become intense. "When you start with the preliminary rounds in the regionals most people want to have fun, but once you move up [into the finals] competition is fierce."

Gordon admits he takes the game one step further than friendly competition. "I'm a little too competitive at the game - most people only play me once," he admits. "But there's nothing like having a hotel on Boardwalk, having your friend land on it, sticking out your hand and saying, \$2,000 - then bankrupt them."

Gordon says he has a few strategies he abides by when playing the game. "Always buy everything and then make good trades. Never build unless you can build three houses at least, on one property," he explains.



It seems that different players have certain squares on the gameboard they favour over others. Gordon says he thinks the orange-coloured properties - New York, St. James and Tennessee Avenues - are the best, and offers some advice on the other properties. "It's better to have the light blue-coloured properties with three houses each, then the yellow-coloured properties with two houses each."

Diemer says it is not uncommon for people to train for the championships on all levels. "Usually they try to play as many games as possible before coming to the regionals and they try to learn the rules inside and out. If you want to win you really have to know the rules and be able to use them to your advantage."

Jay Bleiweis won the last Canadian National Monopoly Championship in 1992 and later that year he competed in the world championships in Berlin. Bleiweis says he tried his hand at the Toronto regional championships in 1988 and didn't qualify for the finals. "But at the 1992 regionals I just kept winning and the next thing I knew I was playing for the Canadian championships."

Bleiweis didn't train at all for the last regional or national championships, but simply played the game a great deal before the tournaments. "But now, I've had to play a little bit to familiarize myself with the game. I'd love to keep my little title because I'd love to go to Monaco," he says.

And like Gordon, Bleiweis has his own personal playing strategies on how to win the game. He says he knows the rules and the ins and outs of the game extremely well using the rules to his advantage whenever possible. "People have different strategies - I like Boardwalk and Park Place while some people wouldn't really love it because there's only one of those in the game and it's tougher to land on," Bleiweis states. "The Europeans didn't really like this strategy much. But I like the gamble of it - you're in or you're out."

Although many competitive players of Monopoly say they believe having "business sense" will help them play the game, Bleiweis



disagrees. "Whenever you are using dice there is luck and chance."

"The game is 100 per cent luck in the first 20 minutes. If you don't land on properties and at least get a piece of the action at the beginning, you're not going to win."

Bleiweis says his experience at the world championships in Berlin was phenomenal. "If you went to world championships you wouldn't believe it - the game is taken so seriously. When I went to Berlin, there were over 30 countries playing, 40 journalists and large media conferences daily."

"I went over there with such an easy attitude. I think if I win and go to the world's again I'll be a bit more nervous, because I didn't realize how serious they take it."

Diemer concurs that the World Monopoly Championships are very serious and adds that they draw a large audience every year. She says all contestants play with a standard English Monopoly board game, but are supplied with translators. "People come from many different countries, like Spain, Japan and the Netherlands to compete. Jay Bleiweis really did well at the world championships last time - he came second in the world," Diemer says.

Although Bleiweis is a real estate agent, he says his profession didn't help him in the championships. However, he did find that

there were some players that took things a little too far in their playing. "Everyone was talking about how the world champion from Japan would hypnotize his opponents in order to make good trades," he says laughing.

The reason Bleiweis says he believes the game is so popular is simple. "It's good, clean, fun competition."

Donna Piasentini adds that the game's popularity is one of magic and mystique. "There is no other game in the world which you can play with family and friends and have so much fun."

Five Billion Little Houses

*It's the world's most popular family board game and the best selling copyrighted game in history.

*Charles Darrow originally brought it to Parker Brothers in 1933, but it was initially rejected because it has "52 fundamental playing errors." The company eventually acquired the rights and produced the game in 1935. Darrow retired a millionaire at the age of 46.

*Parker Brothers has "constructed" more than five billion little green houses since they first began producing the game.

*Every year, Parker Brothers prints more money than both the U.S. and Royal Canadian Mints.

*Official Monopoly Guinness Book of World Records include playing the game in a moving elevator (16 days); in a bathtub (99 hours); upside down (36 hours); and in a treehouse (286 hours).

*The longest Monopoly game ever played was 1,680 hours, that's 70 straight days.

*There is a braille Monopoly set available.

*According to computer statistics the space most frequently landed on are Illinois Avenue, GO and B&O Railroad.

*Seven is the most common die total thrown.

*Escapee maps, compasses and files were inserted into Monopoly games smuggled into POW camps inside Germany during World War II. Real money for escapes was slipped into the packs of Monopoly money.

*In Cuba, the game had a strong following until Fidel Castro took power and ordered all known sets destroyed.

*In 1972 the Atlantic City Commission of Public Works threatened to change the names of the real Baltic and Mediterranean Avenues, but public outcries vetoed the bill.



Hey Baby!

A Crash Course In Astrology by Lisa Urso and Tara D'Angelo

It seems as if people are afraid to admit that they hold no belief in astrology, but *someone* must read the horoscopes printed in nearly every major newspaper or they wouldn't be there. Astrology can be a legitimately useful way to gain insight into a person's character if a personalized astrological chart is done. These charts detail exactly where the planets and sun were at the time the individual was born. However, most people don't have such a deep interest in the subject and are content to classify themselves into one (or more for those born on the cusp) of twelve broad astrological groups just so they can follow their horoscope from time to time. The twelve signs (like Virgo, Pisces, etc.) are further classified into four elemental categories—fire, earth, air, and water. This astrology feature will profile each sign, so you can see whether or not you fit into the stereotypical model of those people whose birthdays are near yours. Perhaps if you do not fit, your rising sign influences your personality.

Members of the same elemental group tend to be very compatible, for they share basic mentalities, yet aren't as similar as people with the same astrological sign. Depending on how you feel about yourself, it may or may not be good to know people just like you.

Those Hot Fire Signs

So when you think of fire you think heat, right? You might even think of getting burned. You're starting to get the right idea of people born under the signs of Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius. They appear to be strong characters that you don't really want to mess with, which is quite accurate superficially. But you know what they say about judging books by their covers and there is definitely more to fire signs than meets the eye.



ARIES

Aries: Aretians are born with ambition and the ability to lead others. This is the sign of the go-getter with enthusiasm so great that it will inspire others. If he/she can focus this boundless energy and drive, he/she can conquer the world. Appearance is important to Aries people and even if they don't have the styliest clothes, they will appear neat and well-kept. One thing Aries should avoid is their tendency to rush headlong into matters that require tact and thought. If you work with an Aries or are involved with one, they are probably the ones running the show. Since this is the generative fire sign, it rules the spirit.

How Arietian Are You:

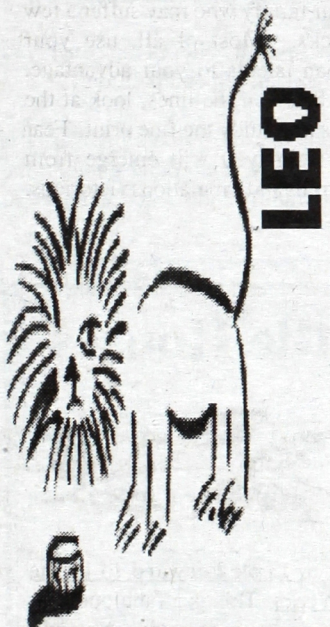
1. Do you try to avoid thinking of your past?
2. Are you fussy about your clothes?
3. Do you think that greeting cards are a waste of money?
4. Are orders hard for you to take?
5. Are you possessive?
6. Is it difficult for you to accept no from someone you really like?
7. Would you feel frustrated with a mate who refused to argue?
8. Do you enjoy organizing others?
9. Are you an aggressive lover?
10. Do you feel inadequate or uncomfortable around small children?
11. Is it hard for you to switch off business?

12. If male, do feminine moods baffle you?
13. Women, if you really liked your newest boyfriend and he was slow at making advances, would you drag him off to bed?
14. Does the thought of a good, steady job for security's sake depress you?
15. Does motor racing appeal to you?

So... give yourself 3 points for every yes, 2 for every maybe, and 1 for every no, then add your score up. If it's higher than 35, quit bossing everyone around, Aries. If it's between 25 and 35, you've got a good head on those shoulders. If it's lower than 25, are you really sure you're an Aries?

What to Look Forward to in the New Year:

Throughout the year, expect Cancers and Capricorns to be important, so you'd better start getting close to a few now. You'll probably spend a lot of time reminiscing about the past, reading old letters, getting in touch with old friends, and just fondly remembering the way things used to be. Listen to your elders this year because, believe it or not, they do know a thing or two. You'll probably be pretty financially secure this year, and you can finally breathe a sigh of relief.



LEO

Leo: This is the concentrative fire sign, so it functions in terms of the soul. Leos command attention, make wonderful friends, have fierce pride, and take naturally to the good things in life. At their worst, they are cursed with an unquenchable thirst for personal glory and are overly ambitious and arrogant. They have a tendency towards favouritism and carefully select friends for their ability to stimulate them and feed their egos. Though they have this love of flattery and admiration, they are generous and warm people.

How Leo Are You:

1. Do you frown upon lovemaking in cinemas?
2. Can flattery impair your judgement of character?
3. Does wealth impress you?
4. Are you fiercely proud?
5. Would you complain if your date looked untidy?
6. Is it hard for you to apologize?
7. If male, do you think that every woman has her price?
8. Sexually would you try anything once just to see what it's like?
9. Is it hard for you to sacrifice yourself for others?
10. Are you extravagant?
11. When sexually frustrated would you go to bed with someone who would not normally attract you?

12. Does dancing appeal to you?
13. Are you a gambler?
14. If female, are you attracted to traditional furniture rather than contemporary?
15. Do you value and look after your possessions?

What it all boils down to is this: You get 3 points for every yes, 2 for every unsure, and 1 for every no. A score of 35 or higher means you might be one of those high-on-themselves Leos, so stop and take a look around you. Between 25 and 35 means you're a more reasonable sort, but if you scored lower, you might want to look at Cancer or Virgo.

What to Look Forward to in the New Year:

You'll see an improvement in work methods, fitness, and relations with people who share your interests. This is your year to stick to that fitness regimen, because your results will really pay off and your body image will improve. The accent for 1996 is on communication and the arts, so don't be afraid to take part in a play or write for the newspaper. A Taurus will help you out a lot and a Scorpio will inspire you. Because you're so damn attractive, watch out for problems arising due to the envy of those around you.



SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: Sagittarius Jim Morrison said that this is "the most philosophical of all signs." It makes sense, then that this is the distributive fire sign and rules the mind. If you're a Sagittarius, your mental vigour never tires and your mental curiosity is seldom satisfied. People shouldn't mess with this sign if they're looking for a good debate unless they've thoroughly researched the topic. People born under this sign need freedom and honesty and sometimes get into trouble when their blunt offers of friendship are misconstrued as romantic advances. When in a stable relationship both males and females of this sign can make excellent parents because they're spirited and adventurous, yet can form a close bond with the children.

How Sagittarian Are You?

1. Is it hard for you to relinquish your personal freedom?
2. Is fidelity difficult for you to achieve?
3. Do you chase get-rich-quick schemes?
4. Are you lucky?
5. Does jealousy in others bore you?
6. Is it hard for you to budget?
7. Do you think it is perfectly natural to experiment sexually?
8. Do you speak rapidly?
9. Are you clumsy?
10. Can you indulge in 3 or 4 affairs without feeling guilty?
11. Do attached people attract you?
12. Do you enjoy some outdoor

- activity?
13. Do you live in the present for the present?
14. Is it hard for you to form a deep and lasting relationship?
15. Do you hate formal occasions?

OK, to make sense of it all, give yourself 3 points for every yes, 2 for every I'm not sure, and 1 for every no. Then add it all up and if you score higher than 35, you may be a little too Sagittarian for your own deep-thinking good. If you're between 25 and 35, you may go on living as you have been. If your score is lower, maybe you should look at the profile of another sign close to your birthday.

What to Look Forward to in the New Year:

Good news! This is supposed to be a spectacular year for Sagittarians. Don't be afraid to look at things differently because you'll benefit greatly from changes in attitude. This could be a year for shaking the foundations (you and AC/DC) and breaking with tradition. Don't be afraid. In the spring, love will bloom with the flowers so get ready. Group activities will be accentuated this year, so don't be surprised if you find yourself in the clubs room. In business matters, follow your instincts about when to buy and sell and you won't go wrong.

Earth Signs—Boring? Not Really

When reading the description of the Earth signs, they seem at first glance to be very boring. They are methodical, calculating and always tend to think before they act. They are very down to earth (imagine that) and are often perfectionists.



TAURUS

Taurus: Taurus is the concentrative earth sign which means it operates in terms of the soul. Taureans tend to be stubborn, steadfast, systematic, kindhearted, persevering and often musical. This sign is ruled by the planet Venus which inspires in its Bulls a love of the arts, music, painting and poetry. Bulls are very stable characters and unshaken in adversity. The hobby of gardening often intrigues Taureans because it allows he or she to relax and escape problems. On the other hand, a Taurus can often be self-centered and pig-headed and can be quite incapable of seeing other peoples' points of view.

How Taurean Are You?

1. Do you consider food to be one of life's great pleasures?
2. Is it hard to change your mind once it is made up?
3. Are you hungry after love-making?
4. Do you work harder in debt?
5. Are you persistent when refused sexually?
6. Is it hard for you to play it cool?
7. Are you thrown when faced with unforeseen changes?
8. Can cookery be described as an art form?
9. Do you over-indulge in sex?
10. Do you have a strong jealous streak?
11. Is laziness a problem for you?
12. If male, will your wife have to

excel in bed?

13. If female, do you enjoy playing hostess?
14. Does borrowing money bother you?
15. Do you believe the romantic approach to sex pays off?

Score 3 for every yes, 2 if you're undecided and 1 for no. If your score is higher than 35, you are a true Taurus, so watch out for your stubbornness and self-centeredness. If you are between 25 and 35, you are a level headed Taurus. If you scored lower than 25, maybe you should consider another sign close to your birthday.

What to Look Forward to in the

New Year: Your interest in the goings-on in other countries becomes very intriguing in the New Year. Maybe your interest will take you somewhere exotic. 1996 will be an intense year for the Bull which promises strong love relationships and intensity. You might even be letting go of some burdens you shouldn't have taken upon yourself in the first place. You will be required to reveal personal information about yourself. Watch what you dream about in the summer, especially July; they could prove to be prophetic. Also, think about any projects you may have started in 1994 and reap the rewards. Watch for prominent Aries and Libra individuals all through the year.



VIRGO

Virgo: If you are a Virgo, you tend to be exact, methodical, discriminating and intelligent. (That's probably why you are here in university, right?) The Virgin has very discriminating tastes and analyzes every detail, an asset in the professional world because of their ability to monitor personal abilities in people and put them to work accordingly. Unfortunately, when a Virgoan gives an order, a certain amount of unintentional offense can be given as well which could limit the amount of office friendships. To the Virgo female, the domestic sphere is not where she wants to be. Although her children would be well taken care of and love dearly, she would eventually go stir-crazy without her career. On the down side, the Virgin may prove to be impossible to please and tends to blame failure on circumstances rather than personal fault.

How Virgoan Are You?

1. Do you feel unappreciated at work?
2. Do you prefer sexual affairs one at a time?
3. Are you critical?
4. Do you think that routine is important?
5. Are you fussy with your food?
6. Would being in debt worry you?
7. Do you think that families should be limited to two children?
8. If female, are you happy to be financially independent of your man?
9. If male, do you admire men like James Bond?
10. Can you work hard on little sleep?
11. Does your mind work quickly?
12. Would others consider your sexual affairs old fashioned?

13. Do you take any physical exercise to keep yourself fit?

14. Are you turned off easily over some small things?
15. Are you conscientious?

OK intelligent one, do the math giving yourself 3 points for every yes, 2 for every sometimes and 1 for no. If it is over 35, lighten up and stop analyzing things so much. If you have between 25 and 35, you are the quintessential Virgo with a discriminating outlook on life. If it is lower than 25, check your birth certificate again.

What to Look Forward to in the

New Year: The obstacles you encounter this year will set off a creative spark in you. These obstacles will not hinder you but help you as you use them as stepping stones to success. It is time for you to reflect on past mistakes and try to change them. Look out for individuals of the Taurus, Leo or Scorpio persuasion. Also keep an eye on the male members of your family who may suffer a few setbacks. Most of all, use your Virgoan talents to your advantage. Read between the lines, look at the details and study the fine print. Fear not Virgin, you will emerge from most trials and tribulations victorious.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: Like the other Earth signs, the Capricornian tends to be precise, just and always attempts to achieve perfection. The Goat is also very reserved and diplomatic and is often noted for their ambitious nature and are always looking for advancement. Individuals born under this sign can also be afflicted with a deep depression so watch out for those mood swings. If you are a Capricorn, you know how to be frugal and smart with your money without being mean about it. Male Capricorns have been known to have difficulty being around members of the opposite sex whereas the female always tries to play matchmaker. Although this may appear as meddlesome, she is only trying to make others happy. On the downside, the noted ambition could be blown out of proportion and the Goat could use others to their own advantage as a means of social climbing.

How Capricornian Are You?

1. Are you a pessimist?
2. Are you a snob?
3. Is deep depression a part of your personality?
4. Do you hide money in strange places?
5. Does your sexual appetite go to extremes?
6. Are you accused of meanness?
7. If male, are you attracted to older women?
8. Are you a small eater?
9. Do you spend too much time on your own?
10. Do you tackle things slowly and carefully?
11. Do you take your sexual affairs seriously?
12. Do you think you were born at the wrong time?

13. Does tradition and history interest you?

14. Does study come easily to you?
15. If female, will you make a strict mother?

Add up your score giving yourself 3 points for a yes, 2 points for a sometimes and 1 for a no. Don't worry, you will do fine. If you have scored over 35, lighten up. You are associated with the lower Capricorn and may have a depressing effect on those around you. If you fall between 25 and 35, you are a higher Capricorn and possess the nicer Goat qualities. However, you should still try and lighten up. If your score was below 25, it is possible your parents lied to you about your date of birth.

What to Look Forward to in the

New Year: This is a fabulous year for Capricorns moneywise. You will also see the past experiences you have had in a new light. Work with those things which have happened in order to learn from them. That Algebra stuff and everything else you learned in high school which you thought you'd never need now becomes useful. Keep your mind focused and don't become too occupied with mysteries or conspiracies whether real or imagined (don't become occupied with the J.F.K. thing OK?) The new year is a time for you to close old doors and open new ones.

Air Signs—Air Heads or Not?

Air signs, broadly stated, are the flakiest in the zodiac. They tend to be irresponsible, superficial, and have their heads in the clouds (hence the term air). They are also charming and easy to get along with, but hard to pin down to a decision or commitment.



GEMINI

Gemini: Being the distributive air sign, Gemini operates in terms of the spirit. The planet Mercury rules this sign and instills in its subjects a vivacity and a surplus of intellectual energy (hence the "spirit") which will seek expression in a variety of ways. People born under this sign tend to be impatient with routine and forever looking for new interests. Geminis are very introspective and try hard to understand themselves, which is a difficult task due to their ever-changing ways. They need people around them constantly and fortunately are seldom without companionship because they tend to be charming and entertaining. At their worst, however, Geminis will drain those who come into contact with them, demanding sympathy, attention, consideration, and time.

How Geminian Are You?

1. If attached do you have trouble remaining faithful?
2. Are you a jack-of-all-trades?
3. Are you aroused sexually through your mind rather than your body?
4. Do you loathe possessive mates?
5. Are you self-critical?
6. Do you enjoy travel?
7. Is your curiosity insatiable?
8. Are you attracted to your mate's mind in a lengthy relationship?
9. If male, does it make you feel good to have several women in love with you?
10. When writing, do your thoughts run faster than your pen?
11. Do you rebel against routine?
12. Do you spend hours trying to

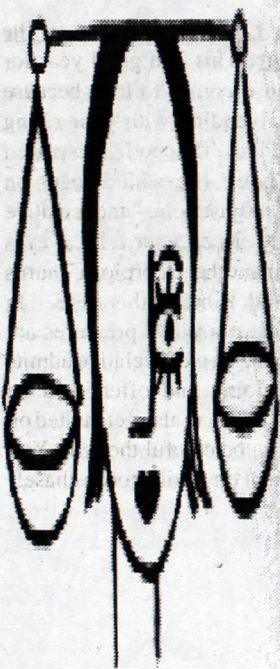
dissect yourself?

13. Are you always attracted to the wrong people?
14. If female, do you think you should feel more maternal than you do?
15. Does insomnia plague you due to an over-active mind?

So here's the score: You get 3 for every yes answer, 2 for every undecided, and 1 for every no. If you scored 35 or higher, you're pretty Gemini and you should probably be a little more considerate to those around you. If your score is between 25 and 35, you're right on, but if you scored lower than 25, maybe you aren't a Gemini deep down inside.

What to Look Forward to in the

New Year: Expect changes in your romantic and professional life, which should come as no real surprise to anyone who knows the versatile Gemini well. A heavy burden or unhealthy influence will release its hold, so you can breath a sigh of relief early in 1996. Boldly brave these uncharted territories, even if some people accuse you of being selfish, uncaring, or foolhardy in your goals. Remember, you're a leader, not a follower. You'll finally get that recognition you deserve. This could be your lucky year, with investments finally paying off. Don't be surprised if you see a lot of Leos, Aquarians, and Scorpios. In short, make the most of this year—trim down, beef up, buckle down, and keep that lucky grin on your face.



LIBRA

Libra: Libra is the generative air sign, meaning that it operates in terms of spirit. Simply put, if you were born under this sign, you are likely restless, versatile, exuberant, intelligent, artistic, and talkative. You have a keen sense of justice and fairness and should try to avoid playing peace-maker so as not to burn yourself out. You have a great appreciation of beauty and like to surround yourself with attractive things. It follows, then, that you would abhor conflict, hysteria, ugliness, dishonesty, melancholia and anything else that disturbs your harmonious rose-coloured world. Often you are too obliging and should learn to say no, if only to make yourself feel tough.

How Libran Are You?

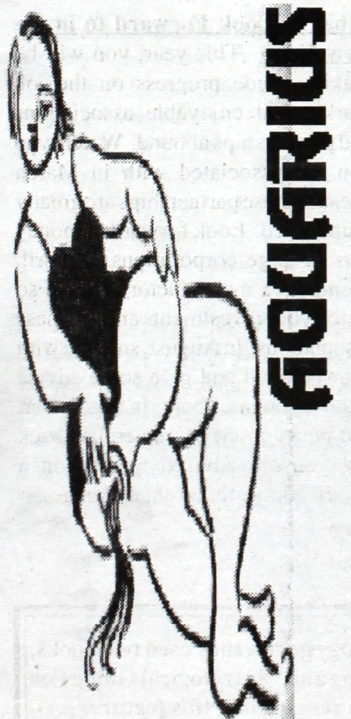
1. Does injustice offend you?
2. Are you artistic?
3. Do you think you could enjoy a sex orgy?
4. Is it hard for you to say no to those you love?
5. Do you have a complicated life?
6. Do you believe in sexual equality?
7. Is it hard for you to exist without a partner?
8. Are you hurt when criticised?
9. Do you like cats?
10. Do you wear bright colours?
11. If female, do you secretly like possessive men?
12. Are you guilty of crazy schemes and ideas?

13. Do you find yourself in difficult situations through your inability to say no?
14. Do you fall in love easily?
15. If male, is sex a failure for you if your woman is unsatisfied?

Score 3 for every yes, 2 if you're undecided, and 1 for no. If your score is higher than 35, you're a true Libra, so watch that superficial wishy-washiness. In between 25 and 35, you're a well-balanced Libra. If you scored lower than 25, maybe take a look at another sign that's close to your birthday.

What to Look Forward to in the

New Year: Oh, spineless you...a member of the opposite sex will probably influence you greatly this year, for better or worse. You'll feel like spreading your wings, trying new things, and taking on new creative projects so you should probably trust your instincts. This is your year to ditch that false modesty and grasp once-in-a-lifetime opportunities. Expect to travel, write, and explore your many natural talents in 1996. Single Librans will encounter romance where they least expect it, maybe on one of their trips. Married Librans meanwhile may be blessed with the pitter-patter of little feet soon. Around April you can finally get rid of someone who's been bad news for you.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: This is the concentrative air sign and operates in terms of the soul. Aquarians are honest, probing, amiable, humane, popular, broad-minded, kind, and detached. You have a great breadth of vision with an unbiased and open mind, free from any superstition or prejudice. You like to learn and have no problem rejecting old ideas and accepting new ones. Your emotions can be too far-reaching and widespread. It is said that the Aquarian is the hope of humanity, but you can't change the world by yourself.

How Aquarian Are You?

1. Do you expect friendship from your lover?
2. Do you side-step unpleasantness?
3. Are you stimulated by good conversation?
4. Are you a positive thinker?
5. Do you think that to worry about money is a waste of time?
6. Would you get up in the middle of the night to help a friend?
7. If male, would you chase a woman who seemed uninterested in the hopes of changing her mind?
8. Are you accused of being detached?
9. Can you abstain from sex for a week without even noticing it?
10. Do you think jealousy is a waste of energy?
11. If female, are you attracted to a

man's mind rather than his body?

12. Are you a secret snob?
13. Do you take part in protests of any kind?
14. Are you unpunctual?
15. Does housework get neglected at the first possible excuse?

Give yourself 3 points for every yes, 2 for maybe sometimes, and 1 for no. If you scored 35 or more, relax, the weight of the world is not actually on your shoulders. If you scored between 25 and 35, you're pretty OK and if you scored lower, maybe you should check out the personality profile of another sign close to your birthday.

What to Look Forward to in the

New Year: If things are looking grim right now, cheer up. In 1996 you will be opening new doors, making new friends, and developing a stronger, more independent way of thinking. That already broad Aquarian mind will be stretching even more in the upcoming months, so you might want to rest up. Read over your old journals to freshen up on lessons learned in the past because they will prove useful this year. Look forward to romance heating up as the weather does because Venus will be moving into your 5th house between early April and early July. You'll probably take a really cool trip in the new year that will stimulate that sponge-like mind of yours.

All Wet Water Signs

The Water signs are a little different from the others in that there are not many constant characteristics. Cancer and Pisces are very quiet and passive whereas Scorpios are very energetic and passionate. One constant however is their sensitivity. They tend to be all wet and sappy, just like water.



CANCER

Cancer: Although Cancerians are also called Crabs, the opposite is actually true. Cancer individuals are actually very patient, tenacious, sensitive and sympathetic. The Crab in the master of moods which is the one constant in the inconsistent livelihood that is the Crab. Like the elephant, Cancerians never forget. The past is very real and alive. To have a Cancer for a friend or loved one is a good thing because they are very loyal. Their friendships are not dimmed by the passage of time. Cancer women often make excellent mothers because of their maternal instinct. On the down side the Cancerian individual can become a slave to his/her moods. The Crab can also become overdramatic and vvy for attention through hypochondria and we all know how annoying that can be.

How Cancerian Are You?

1. Are you protective of those you love?
2. Does the sea attract you?
3. Do you long for a large family?
4. Do you keep letters from old lovers?
5. Do you work slowly and carefully?
6. Is your memory retentive?
7. If male, does the idea of being in bed with two or more women appeal to you?
8. Are you easily hurt?
9. Do you enjoy the limelight?
10. Are you self-protective?
11. Do you dread being alone?
12. Do you take your sexual affairs seriously?
13. Do antiques interest you?
14. Are your sexual fantasies mostly

romantic?

15. If female, is it difficult for you to stay with an unfaithful man?

Now, add up your scores giving yourself 3 for the yesses, 2 for the sometimes' and 1 for the nos. If you scored over 35, stop being a martyr. Remember, self-pity is not attractive and you will not make more friends by using it. If your score is between 25 and 35, you will make a great husband or wife someday. However, you might want to think about becoming a bit more extroverted and resilient. If you scored below 25, perhaps you aren't as crabby as people like to think you are.

What To Look Forward to in the

New Year: Look out for Capricorns, Aquarians and other Cancers this year. This is your year to cut loose from inhibitions. You are such a dynamic person this year with courage, humor and communication. Should you be invited to participate in a political or charitable activity, jump at the chance. Don't forget your New Year's resolutions, try really hard this year to keep them especially if they have to do with fitness, diet, nutrition and body image. Watch Oprah's Spring Training shows and get active! 96 promises to be a banner year for the Crabs (you know I mean Cancers, not actual crabs)



SCORPIO

Scorpio: If you are born under the second water sign, Scorpio, you are energetic, independent and very passionate. The Scorpio individual is known for critical judgement and quick thought. Like the Capricorn, they are also very ambitious yet the Scorpion wishes for success for those around them. Scorpios are generally very intense and are prone to quick attachments and equally quick break-ups. Scorpions are indifferent about nothing. If you are interested in a Scorpio, be warned. They despise any kind of gushing or sentimentality. Scorpions females tend to make excellent mothers although she may expect too much from her children. On the down side, Scorpions tend to be very passionate which includes a very violent temper and fierce jealousy.

How Scorpion Are You?

1. Are you jealous?
2. Are you stubborn?
3. Do you bear grudges?
4. Are you sarcastic?
5. Are you proud of your good health?
6. Is it hard for you to fall in love?
7. Do homosexuals disgust you?
8. If male, do you think a woman's place is in the home?
9. Does your intuition reveal the faults in others?
10. Are you hypersensitive?
11. Do you think teen brides are making a mistake?
12. Are you good with finances?
13. Are you reluctant to change your job?
14. Is it hard for you to make new friends?
15. If female, are weak men attracted to you?

Now add up your scores and give yourself 3 for every yes, 2 for every sometimes and 1 for every no. If you scored higher than 35, you are a lower Scorpio. Since this sign is never quite easy to live with, a lower Scorpio is even worse. You need to stop being so critical and suspicious of others faults. We aren't all perfect you know. If you scored between 25 and 35, you are a higher Scorpio which means you do carry many of the characteristics but they are not as severe as those of the lower Scorpio. You should watch those jealous feelings, though. If you scored lower than 15, you might want to check your birth certificate or stop lying to your friends about being born in November.

What to Look Forward to in the

New Year: This is a good year for you when it comes to love because Venus is blending with your ruling planet of Pluto. The spotlight is placed on your home life with a focus on domestic adjustments and creative endeavors. Keep your critical eyes peeled for another Scorpio, a Taurus or two and Librans this year. In April, your emotional pressures are relieved when a close relative admits a wrong doing and offers you an apology. You may also get invited on a short trip, be careful though. You may get sent on a wild goose chase!!



PISCES

Pisces: People of the Pisces persuasion are usually very kind, sensitive and very moody. The Fish is not very motivated and does not tend to put much stock in rank and power. Therefore, Pisceans tend to not make a great deal of money. The Fish tends to flip flop between two choices; being indecisive by nature. The Pisces male is a dreamer and tends to be the creator of strange fantasies. The Pisces woman is a definitive mother and her house could be a haven for pets and children. The lower Pisces may exasperate his or her friends with his indecision and drifting throughout life.

How Piscean Are You?

1. Are you secretive?
2. Does pornography turn you on?
3. Is your appetite for food small?
4. Are you a romantic?
5. Are you torn in two directions when needing to make a decision?
6. Are you fond of animals?
7. Do you prefer to sort out your problems on your own?
8. Do you suffer from bouts of cynicism?
9. If male, do you prefer sex when your lover takes the lead?
10. Are your eyes expressive?
11. Is depression a part of your personality?
12. Are you jealous?
13. Do mysteries intrigue you?
14. Do you like the feel of fur on your body?

15. If female, do you need a man before you can function properly?

First, add up your scores if you can decide on the answers. Give yourself 3 for every yes, 2 for a sometimes and 1 for a no. If your score is over 35, you are a lower Pisces and tend to have more of the bad qualities of the Fish. Watch your daydreaming and try not to be so sensitive. If you scored between 25 and 35, you are a higher Pisces and this means you probably have most of the better qualities but you are still pretty easily influenced by others. If you scored below 25, you might want to check another sign around your birthday to find the qualities you possess.

What to Look Forward to in the

New Year: This year, you will be making some progress on the job market and enjoyable associations and partnerships abound. Watch who you are associated with in March because these partnerships are greatly illuminated. Look forward to money cuts in large corporations in April. Money is a major factor in 1996 so watch your investments and business associations. In August, snuggle with your beloved and give some advice to those you care about. In September, that pesky money issue comes back and you are advised to stay on a steady course rather than change.

Since neither Tara nor Lisa are astrology gurus, they used two books, "Love, Sex and Astrology" by Teri King and "Astrological Guide For You In 1996" by Sydney Omar when researching this feature.

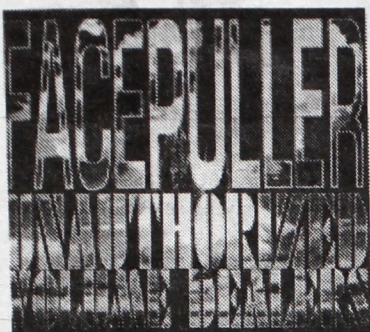
MERRY



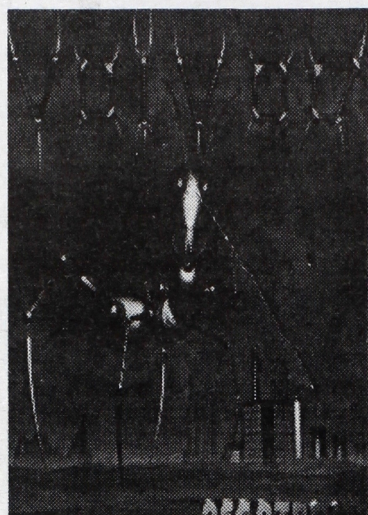
CHRISTMAS



LISTEN HERE



Even if you don't like the music, it's worth your while to own this all-purpose cozy...but I *do* like the music.



Facepuller - Unauthorized Volume Dealers

by Steve Martinovich
Staff Writer

They are *loud*. Facepuller's third full-length release covers the same territory as their previous efforts. A combination of punk and noise, industrial and metal, Facepuller describe themselves as 'hyperdelicindustrialnoisecore'. *Unauthorized Volume Dealers* is definitely for the fans of Facepuller.

The problem with Facepuller stuff is that it all sounds the same. While some it may be legitimately familiar ('Reduction Box' appeared on the *Anatomy of Noise 7"*), all the songs tend to seep into each other. During repeated listening of the album, most of the songs sounded so much like each other that it was hard to tell which one was which. I suppose, though, that's why Facepuller fans like them so much. It does make for some interesting background music since it's hard to concentrate on the lyrics.

If you're in an aggressive mood or want something different from the standard fare then give *Unauthorized Volume Dealers* a try, though I definitely don't recommend this for everyone. Since they've signed with Cargo Records you'll be able to find this CD in most record stores.

Len—Superstar

by Lisa Urso
Staff Writer

Once upon a time I was watching MuchMusic for lack of anything better to do. My eyes glazed over as the minutes passed and grunge image upon punk image upon Hootie image upon rock ballad image passed before them. All of a sudden something caught my attention and I sat bolt upright. **Fun fur** and snow and **Ring Pops** and ooh-aah sweet singing and lots of grinning faces. I only ever saw the video that one time, but kept the name **Len** available in my mind to use as a mantra in times of trouble.

Then the cd found me and this band came to life. Len is about **wet willies** and the pleasures of eating at your mom's house and jones'n and **Cherry Blasters**. One line in the song "Nappyhead" goes "I'm ready to break-dance, so it's not the end." In short it's thoroughly amusing. They have that fluffy poppy stuff and then tread into hip hop waters with **Murderecords' Hip Club Groove** (with whom they played our own Towne House this summer). That's diversity for you.

This band is led by brother and sister team Marc and Sharon Costanzo and they are well-known for their mischevious antics. Perhaps the most infamous aspect about this disc is that it comes in a little fun fur cd cozy. Think about the possibilities.

Voivod - Negatron

by Steve Martinovich
Staff Writer

Voivod is one of those bands who influence other people (such as **Dave Grohl**, **Soundgarden**, **Sepultura**, **Ramones**) and are hailed as innovative. Voivod is also one of those bands that don't sell as much as you might think. Their last few albums (*Nothingface*, *Angel Rat* and *The Outer Limits*) were hardly the stuff of commercial fodder with their eccentric styles. Their latest release, *Negatron*, returns them to the metal sound of their founding days and could be the album that breaks them into mainstream success.

With new vocalist/bassist Eric Forrest taking over Denis Belanger's spot, Voivod sticks with the odd subjects ("Nanoman" deals with an uncontrollable race of superhumans, "Project X" is one of the songs that deals with a theory that

Earth governments are allowing humans to be abducted by aliens in exchange for technology), but the sound itself reminds me of 1988's *Dimension Hatross*. It's more metal than anything Voivod has done in years.

Overall the album is quite compelling. Drummer Michel Langevin is the creative force behind the band (both lyrically and the art for the album) and this maybe is his best effort in quite a while. I'm still getting used to Forrest's vocal style (nothing like Belanger's), which I find to a bit shrieky. With *Negatron*, Canada's Voivod has both changed back into what they were and what they should have stayed.

WHAT'S ON AROUND TOWN

Thursday, December 7

You can put your this issue of Lambda down for a couple of hours to check out **Jazz night** at Sweet and Savory on Durham St downtown.

Friday, December 8

Peterbuilt play tonight at The Towne House. The Sudbury Theatre Centre's production of **Treasure Island** opens tonight.

Saturday, December 9

Take a break from studying and rent a movie. New at the video stores are **Species** and **Apollo 13**.

Sunday, December 10

Today at 3:00 there will be a free concert by the **Huntington Conservatory Orchestra** in the Huntington main lounge.

Tuesday, December 12

Go see how believable **Johnny Depp** is as a devoted dad in **Nick of Time** at the Odeon. Also worthwhile is the first-ever movie done completely in computer animation, **Toy Story** (at the Supermall).

Wednesday, December 13

Blue Rodeo, the band that has no enemies, plays tonight an tomorrow night at The Grand Theatre. This Wednesday and every Wednesday Sweet and Savory has **poetry night**.

Tuesday, December 24

The Legendary Band of No Goods are playing a matinée today from 1:00-6:00.

Sunday, December 31

I know it seems like a long way off, but it's time to start planning. There will be a party in our own **Pub Down Under**. **The Legendary Band of No Goods** play Borky's tonight. Or, **TFM/Budget Motel** will perform at the annual TowneHouse New Year's bash.



AS THE RESULT OF YEARS OF GENETIC EXPERIMENTATION, JOE MANAGED TO CREATE A STRAIN OF PIG THAT COULD FLY.

CFLR CHART FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27, 1995

TW	LW	#WKS	ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL/DIST
1	1	4	*Nomeansno	The Worldhood Of The World	Alt. Tentacles
2	7	3	The Vacant Lot	Shake Well	Shake
3	14	6	*gob	too late . . . no friends	Mint
4	3	8	*The Sweaters	Let Me Out	Nefer
5	4	3	Voodoo Glow Skulls	firme	Epitaph
6	-	nu	Picasso Trigger	Bipolar Cowboys	Alias
7	6	3	Gwar	Ragnarok	Attic
8	21	6	Eat Static	Abduction	Planet Dog
9	-	nu	Birdbrain	Bliss	TVT
10	-	nu	*The McRackins	S.T.U.P.I.D.	Lance Rock
11	10	6	Pinhead Gunpowder	Carry The Banner	Lookout!
12	11	2	*Voivod	Negatron	Hypnotic/A&M
13	8	4	*Mark Brodie & the Beaver	The Shores Of Hell	Shredder
14	13	13	*Various Artists	Punk: The Next Generation	Barely Legal
15	19	2	*Various Artists	Rock Hits	Sonic Unyon
16	20	6	DRI	Full Speed Ahead	Fringe
17	-	nu	Cypress Hill	III (Temple of Boom)	Sony
18	-	nu	Welt	Better Days	Doctor Dream
19	-	nu	Grabbers	The Way I Am	Doctor Dream
20	-	nu	*Radioblaster	Sugar-shock	Squirt Gun
21	-	nu	*Kittens	Tiger Comet	Sonic Unyon
22	17	3	fluf	The Classic Years	Headhunter
23	22	11	*D.O.A.	The Black Spot	Virgin/EMI
24	9	6	Boss Hog	Boss Hog	MCA

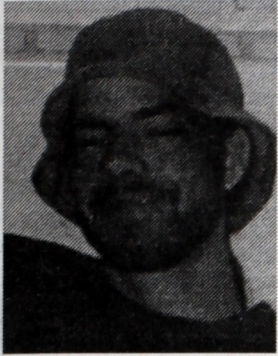
*Denotes Canadian Artists

I started my year-long stint at CFLR in September 1988. It was my first taste of radio, and it was amazing. There is a rush which accompanies turning on a microphone and knowing that people out there are actually listening. And, believe me, people listen to CFLR because it offers a creative, untamed alternative to the mainstream media. I have moved on now, but I still get that rush every time I have to report live from the scene of a story. As well, I try to use actual real-life sounds to tell a story, something I learned while experimenting at CFLR. I also learned that it is not wise to drink twelve beer on Pub-Night then try to wake up for an eight a.m. radio shift the next morning." -Conway Fraser, CBC Radio News, Prince George, BC

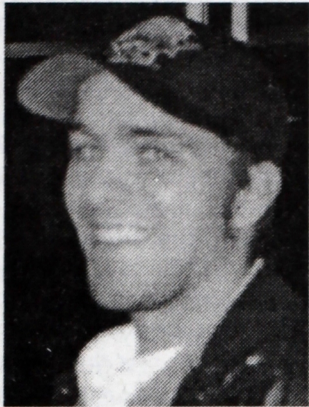
get more from laurentian than a degree, get involved.

Mouthing

It's that time again and we decided to ask Laurentian students what they plan to do on their Christmas vacations.



Sean
Lie in my bed and have a nervous breakdown.



Jeff
I'm going to ski naked.



Steve
Relax. I'm in third year commerce.



Lyne
Going to see the family, I'm also in third year commerce.



Simone
I'm spending Christmas Eve with the family and having an open house on Christmas Day.



Stephannie
I'm recording an album with some friends from my church.

That Good For Nothing Band of No Goods

by Lisa Urso
Staff Writer

There's no one in Sudbury who plays the blues better than the local **Legendary Band of No Goods**. In the eight short months they have managed to make their mark on the music scene and impress most people who have seen them live.

It all started out harmlessly. Last spring, band leader, tenor sax player, and mean harmonica blower **Mark Bartolucci** finished his six-month tour with none other than **Ronnie "The Hawk" Hawkins** when he decided to release a cd of his own. When the touring bug bit again, Bartolucci discovered that the members of his studio band were previously engaged. He was then faced with the task of assembling a new band, and as anyone who has seen **The Commitments** can imagine, it is no small feat. First on board was bass player **Dustin Barth**, then guitarist **Carlos Landolt**. Singer and guitarist **Mike Carlson** joined the band, followed by drummer/vocalist **Christopher Dardick** and finally alto

saxophonist **Sean Whalen**. They were united by "a burning desire to be in a band and an interest in playing rhythm and blues," says the drummer. Obviously they share a common love of blues and it is surprising that Bartolucci has a deep love of **Kiss**, though Dardick is quick to point out that "it has no bearing upon the music. He [Bartolucci] admires their professionalism and theatrical creativity."

The No Goods are a busy

band and can most often be found on stage at **Borky's**. This month is no exception as they are booked to play both Christmas and New Years weekends at the blues bar as well as a Towne House show. Look forward to seeing the band in "tuxedos or naked...or somewhere in between" on New Year's Eve. Pick a day this month, mark it on your calendar "No Goods" and get out to see them play.

The Legendary Band of No Goods
New Year's
AT BORKY'S
SUNDAY DECEMBER 31 1995
INCLUDING A MIDNIGHT BUFFET WITH:
* DELI TRAYS * PASTA * SALADS * COMPLIMENTARY CHAMPAGNE
TICKETS \$ 15.00 PER PERSON

Urban Legends —Let's Talk About Sex



1. A model's penis was shown in a Sears underwear ad (false—it was a drawstring).
2. But it looked like the guy's weiner and folks thought it was (true).
3. Nelson Rockefeller died of cardiac arrest while having sex with the help (true).
4. Errol Flynn once banged out "Star-Spangled Banner" on a xylophone with his penis (unknown).
5. Gangster John Dillinger's penis is pickled in a jar at the Smithsonian (false).
6. Groupies took plaster casts of pop singers' penises, including Jimi Hendrix' (true).
7. Adolf Hitler had only one testicle (believed to be true).
8. The number of stars on a Playboy cover is the number of times Hefner had sex with the centerfold model (false).
9. It's a distribution code (true).
10. Public erections are banned in Indiana and the law is held up by the US Supreme Court (true).
11. A couple on a train in the UK has oral sex and then smokes in the non-smoking section (true).
12. Nobody complained until they started smoking (false).
13. The train crew ignored the complaints until they started smoking (true).

POETRY CORNER

Step Back

Step back, step back
Take it all in
There's a world around us
Let the learning begin

Not everything is what it seems
There's a guise in its place
Emotions are easily hidden
In the shadows of a face

Honesty and truth may hurt
While lies can sometimes heal
The choice is not black or white
How much should be concealed

Even when the action is wrong
It is still carried out
Other factors cloud the judgement
Part of some noble route

There are many other puzzles
To be brought forth with time
I cannot solve them all
Must deal with those that are mine

by Jesus, SSR

Breathing Room

There's a place I can go
When the knot constricts my will
And life tightens its grip
Leaving a feeling of dread

Inside the breathing room
I can truly be free
My mind and soul unclouded
Thoughts roam in peace

The air is so sweet
And the freedom is refreshing
Nothing can harm me here
No weight upon my shoulders

There's a knock at the door
Reality's come to pick me up
I have no choice but to leave
He does not like to wait

The room will always be there
I must wait for my chance
To return to the breathing room
My own private sanctuary

Jesus, SSR



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Bob Wiseman and His Accidentally Acquired Beliefs



by Amelia Chester
Contributor

Bob Wiseman performed in the student lounge at the University of Sudbury on Thursday, November 23. The twenty or so people in attendance witnessed a wonderful performance by an artist that many of them - myself included - knew very little about.

Accidentally Acquired Beliefs is Wiseman's sixth solo recording. He has previously released **In Her Dream, Hits of the 60's and 70's, Presented by Lake Michigan Soda, City of Wood and Beware Bob**. It seems irrelevant to even mention the fact that he was previously a member of Blue Rodeo, as the work he is currently doing has taken an entirely different direction.

One could not say that Wiseman has specific sound because all of his songs are different from each other. He says, "I play modern piano music. I also play cool blues

kind of music. I play stuff that doesn't exist anymore...that's from another time, but it's alive kind of in me and I mutate it in a new way. And I'm kind of a protest singer-songwriter...and in addition to all of that, I play a bunch of love songs."

His interest in bizarre sounds is difficult to explain to someone unfamiliar with him. He began his set with a piano piece in which he manipulated the instrument in ways I have never heard before. In a later number he discovered the noise the piano bench made scraping the floor, and used that in the piece. He comments that "A good musician can make music out of anything...sound is a really mystical thing...it's a universal thing, it's an emotional thing." Bob Wiseman is intending to concentrate more on this idea in his next album, which he said will be similar to one song on his recent album. He said in writing the song, **Could it be Said**, "I basically wrote using all the gizmos I own instead of writing on the guitar or writing on the piano."

Bob Wiseman's music is not for everyone, and it would come as a complete shock to see one of his

albums top a commercial radio chart. He doesn't care. He is a musician that has a gift that he likes to use, and it's as simple as that. Music, to Wiseman, is "...free, it doesn't exist... The more it sounds like it's alive, the more interesting it's to us. That's why we're so fascinated with music...it's because it appears as though it's alive. When a great musician is playing, part of what makes us cry is that...it's as though it's speaking. That's what's so fascinating, that's what's so powerful, about the musician that did it."

If that's not enough to make Wiseman impressive, the following is a list of Bob's highlights from over the past years:

1. Toured Europe (including Poland).
2. Produced the Atlantic Records debut of Kids in the Hall's Bruce McCulloch.
3. Completed two screenplays.
4. Bought and renovated a blacksmith shop on the Great Lakes and made recording studio there.
5. Released the instrumental recording *Beware of Bob*.
6. Together with Mary Margaret O'Hara, contributed "Love is a Rose" to a Neil Young tribute album.
7. Was almost the composer for the Hollywood blockbuster *Johnny Mnemonic*.
8. Bought a Toyota.
9. Got on the Internet strains @NETACCESS.ON.CA.

Why Jann Arden Is Just So Cool

by Tara D'Angelo
Staff Writer

I knew there was something special about **Jann Arden** from the moment I put on her c.d. *Living Under June*. I was completely enthralled by her sweet sounding voice and passionate lyrics; as was my mother. I didn't realize just how cool she was until she came through town on November 26th. For those of you who weren't at the Grand Theatre that fateful night, boy, should you feel dumb.

She opened the show with two tracks from her most recent album, *Living Under June* and then entertained the audience with anecdotes and stories which almost lead me to believe that she could have been a stand up comic in a past life. She talked about her holiday Rummoli marathons with her family and her mother's experience with childbirth. Her personable and comical manner are such a stark contrast to her dark songwriting which has earned her so many Juno awards and a recent

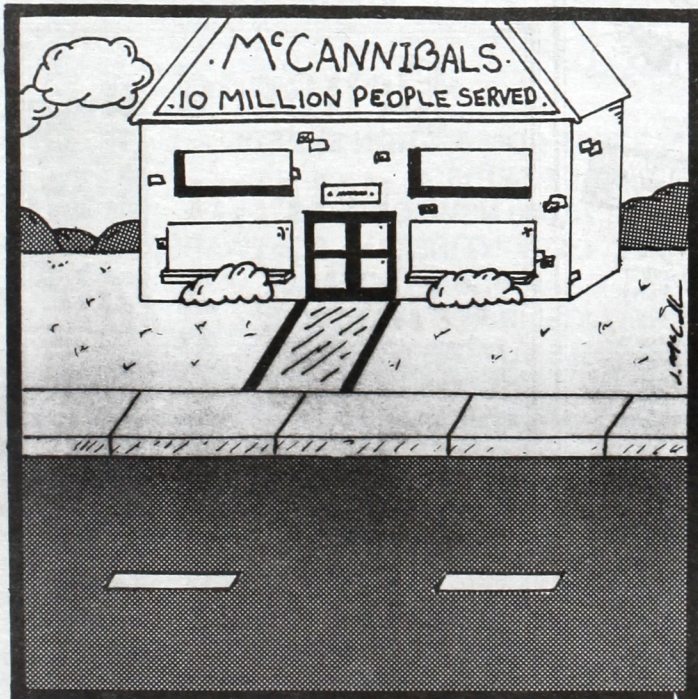
SOCAN award.

Arden and her entourage played every song off of *Living Under June* as well as several of her old hits like "I'm Not Your Lover," "I Would Die For You" and "Will You Remember Me?" The gut wrenching "Insensitive" even earned her a standing ovation from the otherwise low-key crowd. She also played a cover version of Neil Young's "Roots" and closed the show with the Beatles' "Eleanor Rigby." She was everything a good performer should be; dynamic, energetic and very very personable.

After the show, a select few of us had a chance to meet with Jann. She told me that she rather enjoys the Grand Theatre because of the personal environment as well as the receptive crowd. This is the third time she has played in Sudbury; she rolled through town with Moxy Fruvous two years ago and again on her own tour last November. A new album is also due out next year. Her tour ends in mid-December upon which she will be returning to her hometown Calgary to spend some quality time with her parents and brother...and play a little Rummoli.



MENTAL BLOCS BY JAY McCALLUM



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Noël, Noël

Pour débiter notre section spéciale en français, Lambda vous présente l'origine de quelques notions de Noël.

LA FÊTE DE NOËL

Le sens de la fête de Noël est la nativité du Christ, à laquelle on a donné le nom de Noël, qui en réalité vient de "natalis", mot latin qui signifie "natal". Le Christ, né pour nous sauver est Jésus de Nazareth, né à Bethléem... de quoi en perdre son latin! C'est qu'en raison du grand recensement de César Auguste, Joseph et Marie furent contraints de quitter Nazareth, avant même d'avoir donné naissance à Jésus. Ils prirent le chemin de Bethléem, où ils ne trouvèrent comme abri qu'une étable, ce qui inspira saint François d'Assise l'idée de la crèche.



L'ANGE DE NOËL

L'ange de Noël origine de Nuremberg en Allemagne. Il y a trois cents (300) ans, un fabricant de poupées et son épouse furent secoués par la maladie de leur fillette, qui trouva la mort peu avant la fête de Noël. Hauser, le fabricant de poupées, n'arrivait ni à travailler, ni à consoler sa femme. Un soir, il la trouva enfin endormie, sommeillant avec sa peine profonde. Il se réfugia alors dans son atelier et toute la nuit il sculpta et peignit, créant de ses doigts habiles un petit ange à couronne et à robe dorées, qu'il prit soin de déposer dans les bras de sa femme. A son réveil, celle-ci trouva enfin un réconfort. La poupée angélique émerveilla également les voisins, qui demandèrent à Hauser de leur en fabriquer une semblable.



LE SAPIN DE NOËL

Plusieurs hypothèses sont à l'origine du sapin de Noël. L'une date des années 615 et relate l'histoire d'un moine irlandais - Saint Colomban - parti en France faire de l'évangélisation. Les gens à cette époque avaient un peu oublié Dieu. Après avoir construit des monastères, le moine entreprit une tournée de la France et de l'Italie. Un jour à l'approche de Noël, saint Colomban se retrouva seul à prêcher. Personne n'étant venu l'écouter, il pensa attirer l'attention en décorant un arbre. Le seul encore vert et garni à cette période de l'année était un sapin. Il en décora les branches avec des torches (ou des chandelles: les manuscrits ne sont pas unanimes), qu'il alluma le soir venu. Les gens surpris de voir l'arbre ainsi éclairé, se précipitèrent avides de curiosité. Ils y virent Colomban, qui raconta l'histoire de Jésus. Il rejoignit l'âme de ces bonnes gens et conquit leur cœur. A leur tour, les chrétiens installèrent chaque année à Noël des sapins illuminés, en perpétuant donc la tradition.



O SAINTE NUIT



Les malheurs d'un jeune curé de Bavière donnèrent le plus célèbre cantique de Noël. C'est que quatre jours avant Noël, des souris s'en étaient pris à l'orgue de l'église du petit village d'Oberndorf. L'abbé Joseph Mohr se trouvait fort désolé, puisque ses paroissiens allaient être privés de musique, étant trop pauvres pour remplacer l'orgue. C'était inévitable: on allait se passer de musique pour la Messe de Minuit.

Gruber, un ami de l'abbé Mohr à qui il avait compté ses peines, eut une idée. Excellent musicien et organiste, il proposa à Mohr d'écrire un poème sur lequel il composerait une musique, que les enfants du village chanteraient en chœur. La douceur du poème du jeune curé, les sentiments de paix et de joie exprimés inspirèrent à Gruber la très jolie mélodie, qui retentit à minuit dans toutes les églises du monde depuis 1818.

Bûche de Noël

Impressionnez votre famille et vos amis avec cette facile. (C'est long mais, croyez-nous, ce l'est facile). Hop, retrouvons nos manches et au travail.

Ingrédients

- 3 oeufs
- 1 tasse de sucre granulé
- 1 1/2 c. à thé de vanille
- 1 1/4 tasses de farine tout usage Robin Hood, Pré-Tamisée
- 2 c. à thé de poudre à pâte
- 1/4 c. à thé de sel
- 1/2 tasse de lait
- 1 c. à table de beurre

- ◆ Chauffer le four à 400F, chaud.
- ◆ Graisser un moule de 14" x 10 3/4". Tapisser de papier ciré à un demi-pouce plus court, tout autour. Graisser de nouveau et enfariner légèrement.
- ◆ Battre les oeufs dans un bol profond jusqu'à ce qu'ils soient jaune pâle et mousseux (environ 4 minutes).
- ◆ Ajouter le sucre graduellement et bien battre après chaque addition.
- ◆ Ajouter la vanille.
- ◆ Mesurer la farine sans tamiser, ajouter la poudre à pâte et le sel. Bien mélanger.
- ◆ Chauffer le lait et incorporer le beurre.
- ◆ Plier délicatement les ingrédients secs au mélange oeufs et sucre, ne pas battre ou mélanger.
- ◆ Incorporer le lait chaud et le beurre jusqu'à ce que le liquide soit absorbé.
- ◆ Verser la pâte dans le moule préparé et l'étendre également.
- ◆ Cuire pendant 15 minutes jusqu'à un brun doré.
- ◆ Découper les bouts croustillants à la sortie du four (les conserver pour les noeuds) et démouler sur une serviette saupoudrée de sucre à glacer.
- ◆ Rouler vivement le gâteau avec la serviette.
- ◆ Laisser refroidir 15 minutes.
- ◆ Dérouler et étendre la gelée ou confiture jusqu'à 1/2" du bord.
- ◆ Rouler de nouveau et couvrir avec la serviette.
- ◆ Utiliser les découpures pour former les noeuds. Les placer sur la bûche et les maintenir à l'aide de cure-dents.

GLAÇAGE

- 1/4 tasse de beurre mou
- 2 tasses de sucre à glacer
- 2 c. à table de cacao
- 1/2 c. à thé de vanille
- 3 c. à table de café fort, froid

- ◆ Défaire le beurre en crème.
- ◆ Ajouter le sucre à glacer mêlé avec le cacao.
- ◆ Ajouter la vanille et incorporer le reste du sucre à glacer et le café, alternativement.
- ◆ Glacer la bûche et les noeuds tout en imitant l'écorce du bois.

- ◆ Imiter le bois coupé aux extrémités de la bûche avec le dos d'une cuillère et en formant des cercles.
- ◆ Former avec un tube décorateur, une feuille de houx et terminer avec des cerises rouges. Pour la feuille de houx, on peut se servir d'une gelée verte commerciale.

The SGA 1996 Carny Week is approaching with great speed. I'm proud to introduce "Laura N' Chin on the Rocks '96". This is a reminder so that you can prepare yourself for the best carny ever! So get your teams together and join in the fun from January 23rd to 28th. Registration this year is very early so don't waste your time.

Team Registration is from January 8th to 12th if you want to get your very own SGA Carny Scarf. Sign up at the SGA office.

Laura N' Chin on the Rocks

January 23rd to 28th

TUESDAY MARDI	WEDNESDAY MERCREDI	THURSDAY JEUDI	FRIDAY VENDREDI	SATURDAY SAMEDI	SUNDAY DIMANCHE
9:00am Thorneloe Hockey	9:00am Thorneloe Hockey	9:00am UC Football	9:00am U of S Volleyball	9:30-11:30am Student Services Pancake Breakfast	3:00pm SGA Super Bowl Party
12:30-2:30pm SSR Obstacle Course	12:00-2:00pm Lambda 500	1:00-3:00pm Phys. Ed 3 Legged Race	12:30-2:30pm SGA Lumber Jack Contest	12:00-4:00pm LOCS/ELCL Snow Pitch	9:00pm Bowser & Blue
3:00-5:00pm SGA Simpson's Trivia	2:00pm Women's Centre Scavenger Hunt	2:30pm Scavenger Hunt results in Pub	3:00pm entertainment	3:00pm Andrew's Miss Piggy	
6:30pm Residence Bowling	2:30-4:30 Spad Tug-O-War	3:00pm Peter Bujit	6:00-8:00pm Huntington Euchre Tourny	4:00pm CLFR Snow Sculptures Judging	
	9:00-1:00 Vees & SGA Casino Night	7:00-9:00pm CFLR Air Bands	8:00pm Wayward	7:00-8:00pm CFLR Air Bands Finals	
		9:00pm Barstool Prophets		8:00pm Sans John Henry and the watchmen	

Don't forget to work on your Snow Sculptures in VIP Square!

Pensees a
retenir
Qui vole un
boeuf est
vachement
musclé!

Le Père Noël à travers le temps

Historique

Saint Nicolas, Sinter klaas, Santa Claus, ou Père Noël: depuis plus de 1600 ans, le personnage le plus populaire de la planète ravit le cœur de tous - jeunes et moins jeunes.

Le Père Noël du monde entier est d'origine turque (ancienne Asie Mineure). Le bon évêque Saint Nicolas - Sinter Klaas, comme les Hollandais l'appelleront - était affable et généreux. Sa grandeur d'âme nous vaudra d'ailleurs de très belles légendes qui se perpétueront à travers les siècles.

Une d'elles veut que l'évêque à barbe blanche, coiffé d'une mitre, volait à dos de son cheval blanc, au-dessus des maisons en balançant des cadeaux dans les cheminées.

Les premiers émigrants hollandais, traversés en Amérique du nord, y amèneront également leurs légendes: Sinter Klaas deviendra alors Santa Claus, en attendant que le peuple américain ajoute à leur tour d'autres

couleurs particulières aux légendes.

En 1822, un professeur de séminaire Clément C. Moore, écrira pour ses enfants un conte de Noël, confondant les légendes de tous les pays, nous laissant le grand classique littéraire: "The night before Christmas", "La nuit avant Noël".

Le Père Noël tout de rouge vêtu, avec sa

tuque et ses bottes, nous parviendra quarante et un (41) ans plus tard, conduit par l'imagination de Thomas Nast, un caricaturiste à qui on demandera d'illustrer cette merveilleuse histoire.

Le Père Noël au XXe Siècle

Si le Père Noël a traversé les continents, il a également traversé les âges. L'image et l'histoire contemporaines que nous avons de notre héros sont nées de l'imagination et de la plume de journalistes, d'illustrateurs, de caricaturistes et de poètes des états-Unis.

Bien avant la venue des médias, les légendes qui pouvaient se transmettre de génération en génération laissent les traces du passage de ce sympathique évêque à qui les époques faisaient subir de profondes métamorphoses.

Ainsi, pour plus d'authenticité, nos ancêtres le sortirent du monde de l'imaginaire. Notre personnage étant toujours peint comme "chaudement vêtu", on l'associa au Pôle Nord.

Une très vieille légende raconte qu'en l'an 1300 on pouvait au solstice d'hiver entrevoir le Père Noël dans le ciel du Nord de l'Europe.

Et, une légende allemande, l'habillera même d'une robe à capuchon.

En 1885, le Weekly de New-York, présentera un dessin de Thomas Nast: une carte du monde sur laquelle est tracé un parcours reliant le Pôle Nord aux états-Unis. Un an plus tard, Georges Webster donnera le Pôle Nord comme adresse du Père Noël, y logeant sa manufacture de jouets, ensevelie dans la glace et la neige. Nast revêtit alors le Père Noël du fameux costume rouge à fourrure blanche.

Les modes de locomotion du Père Noël alimenteront autant les légendes que le Père Noël lui-même.

Le Père Noël dans les airs.

Déjà en 1809, un article d'un journal new-yorkais - signé Irwing - fera survoler le ciel de la Nouvelle-Angleterre par Santa Claus, sans toutefois porter attention au mode de transport.

Le Père Noël et son traîneau.

C'est en 1821 que l'on installera le Père Noël dans une voiture, tirée par un seul renne.

La "sleigh" à huit rennes.

L'ajout de rennes arrivera avec le premier conte de Noël. Clement Clark Moore associera ce mystérieux personnage à l'image célèbre de ce bon vieux conduit par son cortège, image qui depuis, perdure toujours. On compte huit rennes: Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner et Blixen.

Rudolph, le renne au nez rouge.

Ce n'est que près de cent vingt (120) ans plus tard, que nous arrivera le célèbre Rudolph. Le renne au nez rouge sera chargé d'éclairer le chemin du Père Noël, lors des mauvais temps. On doit au poète Robert L. May son nez lumineux, aidant ainsi à la vision du bon Père Noël. Depuis, "Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer" est en tête du cortège, bravant tempête et brouillard, et amenant ce bon vieux à destination.

L'allure du Père Noël

L'image du Père Noël a traversé non seulement les époques, mais les continents; elle a ravi non seulement le monde de l'imaginaire, mais également publicitaire.

Jusqu'au début des années 1900, on nous présentera un Père Noël taciturne, souriant mais bien peu enjoué, affichant un air de bonheur lorsqu'il apporte des cadeaux aux enfants. Il n'a pas toujours la même prestance: parfois mince, parfois nain, parfois gigantesque, suivant l'origine des contes et des légendes.

Il faudra un élément d'une grande notoriété pour universaliser son image. Et puisqu'internet n'existe pas encore, la publicité se chargera de rejoindre les nations.

Au cours des années 30, l'influence des agences de publicité se fera donc sentir. Une audacieuse firme de boisson gazeuse, grâce à la plume



artistique de Haddon Sundblom, projettera l'image contemporaine de Santa Claus.

Sundblom ayant le mandat d'associer le Père Noël au produit, devait tout d'abord lui donner une stature convaincante et près de la population. Le vieux gaillard devait donc prendre des allures plus humaines. Avec le temps, la métamorphose lui attribuait une grosse bedaine et une figure pétulante et pétillante de santé. Sundblom produisait chaque année des séries d'images pour son client. Reproduit ainsi sur des milliers de journaux, de revues, de panneaux publicitaires, le Santa Claus de Haddon Sundblom fut adopté...

Bien avant les réseaux d'information, les légendes réunissaient les gens entre eux. Tiré par ses rennes, le Père Noël était déjà pionnier de l'espace cybernétique.

Tel "Internet", au royaume du Père Noël, il n'y a ni distance, ni notion de temps. Le 25 décembre à minuit, le Père Noël entre dans tous les foyers, et au cours de

l'année, surveille les agissements de tous les jeunes de la planète.

A l'échelle mondiale un partage des traditions et des coutumes de nos ancêtres, nous laissera les richesses de la fête de Noël: Le "O sainte nuit" est bavarois, les lutins du Père Noël sont norvégiens et les anges sont allemands...



PLUM PUDDING

Voici une autre recette typiquement britannique, servi pendant le souper de Noël.

Ingrédients

- 1 3/4 t. de farine Robin Hood tout usage (Pré-tamisée)
- 1 t. de sucre granulé
- 1 c. à thé de muscade
- 1/2 c. à thé de sel
- 2 t. de suif haché (1/2 lb)
- 3 t. de raisins épinés
- 2 t. de raisins secs
- 2/3 t. d'écorces hachées
- 1/2 t. de citron haché
- 1/2 t. d'amandes blanchies et hachées (si désiré)
- 1/4 t. de cerises "maraschino" ou glacées hachées
- 3 oeufs battus
- 1 t. de lait

GRAISSER généreusement 2 moules de 1 1/2 chopines. (4 boîtes de conserves vides de 20 oz. peuvent être utilisées comme moules.)

MESURER la farine sans tamiser dans un grand bol à mélanger; ajouter le sucre, la muscade et le sel et mélanger complètement.

INCORPORER le suif à l'aide d'un mélangeur à pâte.

AJOUTER les fruits et les noix.

BATTRE les oeufs jusqu'à ce qu'ils soient mousseux, ajouter le lait. Verser dans les ingrédients secs et bien incorporer.

REMPLIR au 2/3 les moules graissés.

COUVRIR de couvercles graissés ou de plusieurs épaisseurs de papier ciré ou encore de coton jaune trempé dans de la graisse fondue et ensuite enfourné.

PLACER les moules sur un gril dans une grande marmite contenant de l'eau bouillante à mi-hauteur des moules. Bien couvrir afin de retenir la vapeur.

ÉTUFFER pendant 3 heures. Ajouter de l'eau bouillante de temps en temps pour la garder au même niveau.

LAISSER refroidir les puddings 24 heures dans les moules couverts.

CONSERVER dans un endroit frais et sec.

AU MOMENT de servir, réchauffer à la vapeur pendant 2 heures.

SERVIR avec une sauce vanillée ou une sauce à la cassonade.



Blague à part



C'est deux explorateurs qui se font ramasser dans la forêt vierge par une tribu cannibale. Le chef s'approche et leur dit:

- Pour avoir la vie sauve, il va falloir vous conformer à mes instructions. Vous allez tous les deux aller me chercher 100 fruits de la même espèce, et n'essayez pas de fuir, on vous retrouverait facilement. Les deux explorateurs partent à la recherche de 100 fruits...

Le premier revient au bout d'une heure avec 100 cerises (oui, oui, dans la jungle!).

- Bon, dit le chef, maintenant tu vas te les enfoncez dans le cul toutes une par une sans rigoler. Alors le mec commence: une, deux, trois, quatre... dix, vingt, trente, il se retient de se marrer, soixante, 80, 90, 91... il arrive à la fin... 96, 97, 98 et là le type part d'un immense fou-rire.

Le chef lui dit alors: "mais t'es con, t'avais presque fini!!"

Le type de répondre: "je sais mais c'est quand j'ai vu mon copain revenir avec 100 melons d'eau..."

Quand les Rolling Stones lançaient la tequila

(ou un aperçu du whisky)

Dans les années cinquante, qui connaissait la Tequila aux Etats-Unis ou ailleurs ? Peu de monde. Tout changea en 1972. Les Rolling Stones firent un triomphe aux Etats-Unis. La publicité lors de leur tournée fit de leur "Drink" favori la boisson préférée d'une génération entière d'étudiants. Avant 1972, les USA importaient 2,3 millions de litres de Tequila. A partir de 1972, les chiffres s'envolèrent : 16,3 millions de litres. La Tequila était devenue super-star. Les Rolling Stones avaient imposé leur préparations favorites : "Tequila Sunrise" et "Margarita". Pour faire la Tequila Sunrise, rien de plus facile : remplissez à moitié de glace pilée un verre de Longdrink. Versez une bonne dose de Tequila, une larme de grenadine, ajoutez du jus de citron vert, mélangez légèrement et versez délicatement du jus d'orange frais. La Margarita a longtemps été - est peut-être encore - la boisson culte des étudiants californiens.

Pour comprendre l'étiquette du whisky écossais

Il existe deux sortes de scotch whisky : le whisky de grain et le whisky de malt. Le premier, le plus souvent associé à un peu de malt (les proportions diffèrent suivant les marques), est aujourd'hui - et de loin - le plus répandu. Quand vous lisez whisky "blend" (assemblé), vous pouvez vous attendre à déguster un whisky pouvant être composé de plusieurs eaux-de-vie, pouvant parfois provenir d'une cinquantaine d'origines différentes. En comparant le whisky au vin, le whisky "blend" est similaire à un assemblage de vins de différentes régions, le pure malt ressemblerait à un assemblage de vins d'une même région d'appellation et le single pure malt à un château (vins en provenance d'un seul domaine, d'une unique propriété). La notion d'origine, les terroirs géographiques jouent donc un facteur important pour l'élaboration d'un malt. C'est ainsi que vous pouvez constater sur la plupart des bouteilles des grands whiskies de malt, l'indication géographique, l'origine de la distillation et de l'élevage.

L'habitude a aussi été prise de diviser la production du whisky de malt en quatre groupes suivant l'emplacement géographique des distilleries. - Le malt des Highlands provient des hautes terres d'Ecosse du nord. Fins, délicats, les plus renommés proviennent des environs de la rivière Spey, dans ce Speyside qui rassemble quelques distilleries produisant les meilleurs malts d'Ecosse (The Macallan, Cardhu, The Glenlivet, Glenfarclas, Cragganmore, Knockando …). Mais si l'origine ("highland pure malt", highland single malt") est toujours indiquée sur l'étiquette, il ne faut pas s'attendre à davantage de précisions géographiques. Et la sous-région du Speyside, pourtant prestigieuse et recherchée des amateurs, n'est que rarement mentionnée sur l'étiquette. Le malt des Lowlands, des basses terres, est assez léger, moins marqué par la tourbe (ce très vieux sédiment de végétation tapissant les vallons ou "glens" écossais et qui sert au séchage du malt) mais fruité et à la douceur

quelque peu sucrée. Il est souvent utilisé pour l'élaboration des "blends". C'est un malt que l'on pourrait qualifier d'initiatique, d'entrée en matière toute en douceur dans l'univers des malts (un bon exemple issu des "classics malts" que propose "United Distillers": le Glenkinchie). - Le malt de Campbeltown en provenance de la plus petite des régions de production, est limitée à une petite ville ne comptant que deux distilleries (glenscoff et springbank). Cette presqu'île du sud-ouest écossais donne un malt puissant et long en bouche. - Le malt d'Islay est un malt qui décoiffe ! Fortement iodé et tourbé, ce malt est produit sur cette île austère et compte dans le monde de nombreux amateurs inconditionnels qui apprécient, plus que tout autre malt, ceux en provenance d'Islay distillés par Bowmore, Laphroaig ou Lagavulin.

Dans la vaste famille du "blended scotch whisky" (97% de la production totale !), existe également ce qu'il est convenu d'appeler le "blended de luxe". Des exemples : Chivas Regal, Johnnie Walker "black label", William Lawson "scotish gold". Il s'agit d'un blend qui contient une proportion plus forte de whiskies âgés et soigneusement sélectionnés.

L'âge du whisky

Quant à l'âge du whisky - si l'étiquette en fait mention - il faut savoir que toute indication le concernant se rapporte au whisky le plus jeune du blend. C'est ainsi que si un blend est présenté sur l'étiquette comme ayant 12 ans d'âge, c'est que obligatoirement le whisky le plus jeune entrant dans son assemblage a vieilli pendant minimum 12 ans. Avant sa mise en bouteille, le whisky titre environ 53 degrés d'alcool et il est alors réduit à 43 degrés ou 40 degrés par adjonction d'eau. Pour sa stabilité aromatique, il est préférable de se le procurer à 43 degrés.

Comment boire le whisky ?

"Avec un peu de Whisky", vous répondra-t-on spirituellement en Ecosse. Mais on ajoutera aussitôt, plus sérieusement : "de la manière qui procure le plus de plaisir à celui qui le boit". Le "blend" se boit habituellement sec ou sur glace ou avec de l'eau (plate ou plus habituellement pétillante). Mais certains l'apprécient en compagnie du toujours incontournable coca-cola ou, de façon plus originale, avec du ginger-ale. En France, une mode consiste à l'additionner de jus d'orange ou même de liqueur de pêche...

Quant au malt, en Ecosse on l'apprécie généralement à température ambiante, sec ou allongé d'un peu d'eau plate qui en exacerbera les arômes. Le froid tuant les arômes, les glaçons sont à déconseiller et souvent proscrits dans son pays d'origine. La dégustation d'un malt, en Ecosse, que cela soit en apéritif ou à l'issue d'un repas, s'apparente à celle du Cognac.

Le blend convient-il en cocktail ? Question de goût, bien évidemment. Mais le cocktail à base

de Whisky nous paraît très rarement heureux. A essayer toutefois : le "rob roy" (moitié vermouth italien, moitié scotch et un trait d'angostura). Mais évitez le "jelly beans" qui associe whisky, gin, vodka, pernod, cherry brandy, babycham et limonade !

Whisky, whiskey, bourbon, rye : comment s'y retrouver

On élabore du whisky dans le monde entier. De la Finlande aux U.S.A. en passant par le Japon, aujourd'hui important producteur de Whisky nippon (ni mauvais). Mais qu'en est-il des différences entre Scotch et Irish, bourbons et ryes ? Appliquées au whisky, les expressions "scotch" et "irish" apportent une signification purement géographique. Tous les deux doivent être distillés et vieillis respectivement en Ecosse et en Irlande. Le whisky écossais y est distillé avec de l'orge maltée et d'autres céréales dans des alambics à feu nu (deux distillations). Les Irlandais pratiquent généralement trois distillations plutôt que deux ("les Irlandais feraient n'importe quoi pour se faire remarquer" disent les Ecossais) et utilisent un nombre plus important de céréales. Pour le "bourbon whiskey", élaboré exclusivement dans l'Etat de Kentucky (le célèbre Jack Daniels, pourtant très typé bourbon, ne peut revendiquer cette paternité puisque né dans l'Etat voisin du Tennessee), les céréales utilisées seront ici assemblées mais avec un minimum obligatoire de 51% de maïs. Quant au "rye whiskey", produit à la fois aux Etats-Unis et au Canada, son nom n'implique aucune signification géographique. Aux Etats-Unis, le rye doit être produit à partir d'un mélange de céréales comportant au minimum 51% de seigle. Quant à la législation canadienne, sa totale absence de précisions fait sourire : le rye whiskey canadien sera un whisky distillé au Canada possédant l'arôme, le goût et le caractère généralement attribué au whiskey canadien.

Le whisky à table

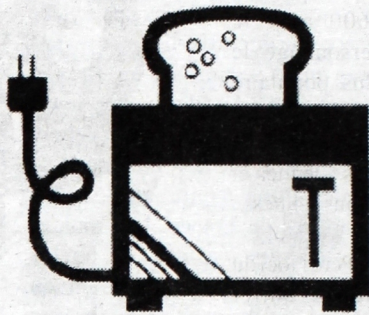
Il n'existe aucune tradition - même en Ecosse - d'utilisation du whisky en cuisine sauf pour remonter le moral de la cuisinière ou du cuisinier. Pas d'irish, de rye, de bourbon ou de scotch dans les casseroles ! Pas d'équivalent écossais ou irlandais au coq au vin ou au boeuf bourguignon ! Il existe bien le tournedos flambé au wiskey (steack balmoral) ou l'omelette au whisky rob roy (avec whisky, vermouth italien et angostura !). La célèbre spécialité écossaise, le "haggis" (abats de mouton mélangés à de la graisse et de l'orge grillé), se mange après ajout d'une généreuse rasade de whisky. Certains prétendent que cette coutume est bien nécessaire pour faire passer cette "panse farcies".

Certains amateurs gourmets apprécient aussi le saumon fumé avec un grand malt. A essayer aussi : huîtres bien iodées avec un jeune malt de l'île d'Islay. James Darwen (auteur de "La grande histoire du whisky") aime associer un Auchentoshan, malt des Lowlands triplement distillé, avec du caviar servi sur du pain blanc grillé et beurré.

Les origines des aliments et des choses de tous les jours

LE TOAST

Contrairement à ce que l'on pourrait croire, le mot toast ne vient pas d'Angleterre. Il est une anglicisation dérivée de l'ancien français "toster" qui signifiait "griller", verbe lui-même issu du latin "tostus", participe passé de torrere (griller, rôcir; tir). Les Anglais furent cependant les premiers à répandre l'usage du mot "toast" pour désigner une tranche de pain de mie grillée. Le mot sous sa forme orthographique anglo-saxonne repassa dans la langue française en 1769, mais ne se répandit réellement en France qu'à la fin du 19ème siècle.



LA FOURCHETTE

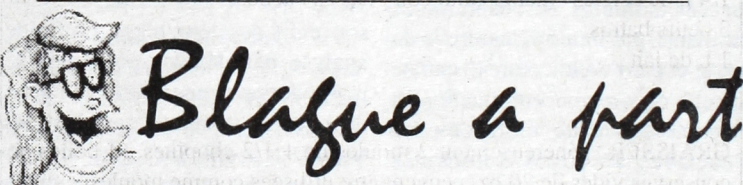
Le mot fourchette vient du latin "furca", une fourche de paysan. Mais on se demande encore à quoi elle servait à l'époque : jusqu'à la Renaissance, on a mangé avec les doigts. Il y avait tout de même un savoir-vivre : les gens bien nés se servaient de trois doigts et les vulgaires de cinq. Les inconscients qui voulaient se servir d'une fourchette à deux dents étaient traités de snobs et montrés du... doigt.

LE GADGET

Le premier "gadget" date de 1886. Il s'agissait d'une statue de la Liberté en miniature imaginée à Paris par un certain Monsieur Gaget, l'un des patrons de la firme Gaget, Gauthier & Cie qui avait construit la Statue de la Liberté à partir des plans du sculpteur français Bartholdi. Pour célébrer l'inauguration du célèbre monument, M. Gaget avait créé des petites statues à l'intention des Américains résidant à Paris. L'idée avait fait fureur. Le nom même de M. Gaget, prononcé avec l'accent US, fut rapidement appliqué à la vague de créations hétéroclites dont nous sommes submergés.

LA CAFETIERE

L'humanité apprécie le café depuis l'époque où, en 850 ou au XVe siècle selon des sources quelque peu légendaires et approximatives, un gardien de chèvre éthiopien du nom de Kaldi aurait remarqué combien ses bêtes manifestaient de vivacité après avoir brouté les feuilles et les fruits du caféier. Malgré cette perspicace découverte africaine sur les vertus du kawa, il fallut attendre jusqu'en 1800 pour apprécier, grâce à la cafetière filtre, un café moulu infusé. Cette invention est due au Français Decroisilles. Auparavant, les amateurs se contentaient de faire bouillir le café dans de l'eau et de passer l'étrange mélange obtenu dans un filtre improvisé avec pour seule consigne d'utilisation : retirez du feu lorsque la boisson sent bon ! Le véritable filtre de papier buvard, qui remplaça l'antique morceau de coton, pratique mais trop fragile, fut mis au point, quant à lui, en 1907, par l'Allemande Melitta Bentz. On connaît le fameux succès de son produit...



Une petite histoire comme ça...

Un ministre africain vient en voyage officiel en France, et se fait inviter à dîner chez son homologue français. En voyant la somptueuse villa de ce dernier, et toutes les toiles de maître aux murs, il lui demande comment il peut bien s'assurer un tel train de vie avec sa paye somme toute modeste de serveur de la République. Le français l'entraîne près de la fenêtre "Vous voyez l'autoroute là-bas ?

-oui

- Elle a coûté vingt milliards, l'entreprise l'a facturée 25 et m'a versé la différence".

2 ans plus tard, le ministre français est en voyage officiel en Afrique et rend visite à son homologue. Quand il arrive chez lui, il découvre un palais comme il n'en avait encore jamais vu. Stupéfait, il demande "Mais je ne comprend pas, il y a 2 ans vous trouviez que j'avais un train de vie princier, mais par rapport à vous..." Le ministre africain l'entraîne près de la fenêtre :

"Vous voyez l'autoroute là-bas ?

- non

- Ben voilà."

Les étagères sont vides

Pour les bibliophiles sur votre liste d'achats pour Noël, Lambda vous suggère les nouveautés suivantes. Il y a de tout pour tous, lancez-vous-y!

L'Archange Perdu par Isabelle Jarry. Que cache le visage éclairé des moines enfermés derrière les murs des monastères? D'où leur vient ce sourire particulier et ce regard calme qu'ils portent sur les êtres et sur le monde? Au fil des interviews, Isabelle Jarry crée un livre en dehors de l'ordinaire où le romanesque se double d'une visite guidée des monastères de France. Les moines s'y laissent aller à parler d'eux-mêmes, nous proposant au passage de bouleversants témoignages. Mercure de France, 352 p.

La Secte des Egoïstes par Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt. Révélé en 1994 par le grand succès de sa pièce "Le Visiteur", l'auteur signe un premier roman en forme de conte philosophique avec cet esprit et cette cinglante ironie qui firent le meilleur Voltaire. Construit sur la péremptoire proposition de Languehaert,

qui se dit, à lui tout seul "le monde, toute la réalité et son origine même", le livre explose en un pastiche des Lumières qui fait tourner l'esprit du lecteur, lequel, devenu peut-être Dieu lui-même, se prend à sourire de bonheur. Albin Michel, 210 p.

Assèze, l'Africaine par Calixthe Beyala. Calixthe Beyala, dans un roman dense et sans fard, donne à la tragédie africaine une de ses plus inoubliables héroïnes. Mais si Eschyle n'est jamais loin, la férocité se couvre toujours d'un humour aussi impitoyable que salvateur, né du creuset de la francophonie africaine et de la gouaille parisienne revisitée par la débrouille des nouveaux pauvres. Un roman pour déchaner son imaginaire et régénérer son dictionnaire. Albin Michel, 352 p.

L'Allée des Soupîrs par Raphaël Confiant. Livre-fleuve dans la veine caraïbe, L'Allée des Soupîrs tonne comme un grand éclat de rire. Séduit par ces hommes et ces femmes truculents, par l'enflure naturelle du créole et par l'architecture disparate de cette oeuvre concentrique, on lit avec passion cette bible des fils d'esclaves abreuvés à tous les malheurs. Des années après Aimé Césaire, et aux côtés de Chamoiseau, voici un chef-d'oeuvre de plus dans la littérature antillaise. Grasset, 408 p.

Signé Parpot par Alain Monnier. La vie invraisemblable de Barthélémy Parpot, maniaque et obsédé, est d'une surprenante drôlerie. Composé de lettres, de rapports, d'un journal intime, de contrats, de factures, ce livre fait penser à une comédie

Italienne remplie de rebondissements délurés et de délires surréalistes. Voici le roman le plus drôle et le plus original depuis Pennac et Romain Gary. Climats, 200 p.

La Virevolte par Nancy Huston. Avec une plume claire et implacable, l'auteur a choisi de conter une fable cruelle. Mélange de vie et de revirement de révolte, voici un livre féministe et scandaleux sur le bonheur et la stupidité de la maternité. La talent du grand écrivain canadien, réside dans cet art de ne porter aucun jugement, tout en sachant faire ressentir toute l'émotion et les souffrances de ses personnages. On ne peut qu'être emporté par cette virevolte dramatique sur la musique des êtres et du temps. Actes Sud, 209 p.

Comme le Diable m'a Fait Naître par Patrick Séry. Dévidé comme un gigantesque éclat de rire, en désespoir de cause, et nourri aux sucs glaciaux des meilleurs cyniques grecs, ce destin, digne des plus grands romans à tiroirs du dix-septième siècle, séduit par son sens du burlesque, son émotion et une époustouflante maîtrise du français, tordu et retordu pour extasier, du pire, le meilleur. Flammarion, 230 p.

Le Nom des Singes par Antoine Volodine. Écrivain rêveur et visionnaire, Antoine Volodine est bien connu des amateurs de littérature d'anticipation pour ses subtiles fictions surnaturelles. Mais ici c'est la vraie nature, multiforme et loufoque de la forêt vierge qui envahit les pages et les souvenirs des deux héros. La froide analyse des dédales politiques se marie alors avec une formidable leçon de choses où défilent les tribus amazoniennes, les lézards magiques, les singes hurleurs et les lianes hallucinogènes. Minuit, 240 p.

Juste un Instant d'Automne par Rolland Doukhan. Antagonisme religieux, passions politiques ou fractures culturelles, l'imbrication des idées et des événements, le style complexe et envoûtant créent une ambiance orientale où l'on se laisse entraîner avec bonheur. Il s'agit d'un ouvrage riche, humain et coloré, bref

d'un beau livre à lire absolument. Denol, 416 p.

N'écarter pas la Brume par Catherine de Saint-Phalle. Un premier roman à la frontière du réel et du merveilleux, dans une Irlande mythique pleine de personnages drôles et turbulents : patron de pub, infirmière extravagante, docteurs et petit peuple de la lande. Mais surtout ce roman dit avec gravité la force vive de la mémoire sur laquelle s'appuie Everest pour reprendre pied dans la réalité de son présent. Actes Sud, 180 p.

L'Écriture ou la Vie par Jorge Semprun. Semprun aurait pu de contenter d'écrire des souvenirs, ou un document. Mais il a composé une oeuvre d'art, où l'on oublie jamais que Weimar, la petite ville de Goethe n'est qu'à quelques pas de Buchenwald. Gallimard.

Un Aller Simple par Didier Van Cauwelaert. En France, un attaché humanitaire doit accompagner un immigré de retour dans son pays. Mais qui est le plus en détresse? Un livre cocasse et plein d'humour mais aussi un conte cruel sous ses allures tendres. Une petite merveille? Prix Goncourt 1994. Albin Michel, 196 p.

Allons Nous être Heureux par Pierrette Fleutiaux. L'auteur, prix Goncourt de la nouvelle et lauréate en 1990 du prix Fémina, nous conte l'histoire d'un petit Français à New York, Robin, et de Beauty, un petit laideron, américaine, qui deviendra mannequin

vedette. Peu de livres rendent plus fidèlement compte de la vie quotidienne à Manhattan dans les années 1970 pour un certain type d'exilés. Histoire de l'amour entre Robin et Beauty, le roman est aussi celui du choix impossible entre les séductions du Nouveau Monde et les charmes du Vieux Continent. Gallimard, 300 p.

La Vie des Cerfs-Volants par Xavier Orville. A Fond-Pipiri, les habitants du quartier se sont réunis autour de la dépouille de Lazare Vainqueur. Seulement, Lazare est un mort indocile qui a refusé de mourir... Les sens en alerte, il suit les conversations, découvre les dessous de la vie de chacun, retrouve ses souvenirs, discute avec les présents et, quand il en a assez, se lève pour aller respirer ailleurs. Un livre rempli de rencontres poétiques et farfelues comme Orville en a le secret... Stock.

Blague à part

La parabole des étudiants:

... Et Jésus mena ses disciples à la montagne, et les pria de l'écouter:

Il leur dit:

Heureux sont les pauvres, car le royaume des cieux leur appartient.

Heureux sont les faibles.

Heureux sont ceux accablés par le deuil.

Heureux sont les épris de justice.

Heureux sont les opprimés.

Heureux sont ceux qui souffrent.

À tous ceux-là je leur dis, soyez heureux, car le ciel vous attend en récompense. Souvenez-vous de mes mots.

Alors, Pierre se leva et demanda: "Doit-on prendre tout ça en note?"

Et Paul ajouta: "Est-ce qu'on doit s'en souvenir?"

Et Marc ajouta: "Est-ce que ce sera matière à examen?"

Et Jean ajouta: "Devons nous le rendre avec le devoir?"

Et Matthieu déclara: "Les autres disciples n'ont pas eu à l'apprendre"

Enfin, un apôtre demanda à voir Jésus en particulier, et lui demanda si tout cela était bien conforme aux objectifs du plan de cours.

Et Jésus s'effondra et se mit à sangloter.

Ce genre d'histoire arrive dans la vie de tous les jours. Un type va pour la première fois en visite chez les parents de sa copine. Il veut faire bonne impression mais le Chili Con Carne de la veille fait des siennes et ses intestins le rappelle à son bon souvenir toutes les cinq minutes. Notre héros est le centre d'intérêt de la famille entière et fait plutôt bonne impression, seulement voilà qu'un gaz s'annonce et la douleur est telle qu'il ne peut qu'adopter la solution d'urgence: le contrôle absolu de ses abdominaux et de ses muscles fessiers pour en claquer un silencieux dans les coussins du fauteuil. Ouf. Mission accomplie... Mais voilà que flotte autour de lui une sorte d'aura qui n'augure rien de bon pour son avenir de gendre potentiel pour au moins les dix prochaines années. Le maître des lieux ne peut faire autrement que de remarquer l'odeur nauséabonde qui se répand dans la pièce et hurle: MEDOR!!

Effectivement repose au pied du prétendant un chien répondant au doux nom de Medor, "Ouf c'est lui qui prend!" souffle notre héros soulagé. Il se dit qu'après tout puisque c'est le chien qui prend autant en profiter d'autant plus que le suivant s'annonce féroce. En virtuose, le second est lâché avec autant de discrétion que le premier et l'odeur se fait de plus en plus présente. MEDOR!!! gueule le père.

Et va pour le troisième se dit le type. Le père se lève et hurle: "MEDOR TIRE TOI DE LA, CE TYPE VA TE CHIER DESSUS!"

Un Belge (un Québécois, un Newfie, bref, celui que vous préférez), sur la glace... Il sort sa scie et sa canne à pêche, et commence à découper un trou dans la glace. A ce moment là, une voix d'outre tombe, glacée, résonnante, annonce: "IL N'Y A PAS DE POISSON ICI..."

Le Belge, stupéfait, s'arrête, regarde autour de lui, ne voit personne, et continue.

"IL N'Y A PAS DE POISSON ICI!"

Encore un fois, il s'arrête, et tend l'oreille...

"IL N'Y A *PAS* DE POISSON ICI!!!"

Et le Belge: "Mais qui parle, une fois?!"

"LE DIRECTEUR DE LA PATINOIRE!"

Je me demandais l'autre jour ce qui peut bien passer par la tête de quelqu'un qui se jette du 7ème étage Sa colonne vertébrale!

Le vieux Marcel emmène son chien chez le vétérinaire. Celui-ci l'interroge: "Il est tatoué ce chien?"

Le vieux Marcel, piqué au vif, lui répond "Ma bien sûr qu'il est à moué!"

Biff and Bart: Sports Experts

by Biff and Bart

Columnists

Hi-dee ho, neighbours! It is I, Bart. Since we are going to miss the final two weeks of the NFL, Biff and I have decided to give you a synopsis on who is going to make and miss the playoffs. In the AFC, Pittsburgh will soar to the best record in the conference followed closely by Kansas City and Buffalo. As for the NFC, the Cowboys will finish the year with the best overall record in the league. San Francisco and Green Bay will win their respective divisions as well. After a long weekend of statistical calculations, I have established that the wild card teams in the AFC will be claimed by Oakland, Indianapolis, and Miami. In the NFC, the wild cards will be Philadelphia, Detroit, and Atlanta. If I have to pick a Cinderella team in the playoffs, it would have to be the Colts. They have defeated many teams with better records during the regular season. As for who will win the Super Bowl, the Cowboys look ready to repeat as champs. It appears they will meet either Buffalo (Oh No!) or Indianapolis in the Super Bowl. Here are my choices this week:

1) *Dallas at Philadelphia*: This will be a classic running game. Both teams are stacked at the RB position. Philadelphia signed Rickey Watters in the off season, who is starting to settle down now that he is used to the team's style of play. As for Dallas,

they have the best all around RE in the league today. With Dallas' defensive line, do not expect Rickey Watters to have a great performance. Emmitt usually averages over 165 yards against the Philly D. The biggest difference in this game will be the QB position. The Eagles are still uncertain whether their QB should be Peete or Cunningham. Expect the Cowboys to trash the Eagles. Prediction: Dallas 31, Philadelphia 17.

2) *Kansas City at Miami*: For the third week in a row, KC meets up with a strong opponent. Miami is looking good. Dan Marino and company should be able to outplay the tired KC defense. Steve Bono will not be as effective against the classy Dolphins squad. Whenever you have Marino and Fryar on the field, you have guaranteed highlight film material. You will have big plays with lots of yardage that will cost KC the game. Do not expect a come from behind miracle in this one by the Chefs. Prediction: Miami 40, Kansas City 20.

3) *Indianapolis at Jacksonville*: Every time I pick the Colts, they always seem to win. I have picked against them once (ask Biff). He knows what happened to them. They lost. This should be an interesting game. The Jags are out to prove that they are just as good as their expansion cousins and the Colts are battling for a playoff spot. Look for Faulk to have an excellent, big-play game. He has been somewhat over-shadowed this year because of QB Jim Harbaugh's MVP numbers but against a porous defense,

he should be able to break open a long one against a weak run-stopping team. Prediction: Indianapolis 31, Jacksonville 20.

4) *Green Bay at Tampa Bay*: This is the second meeting of these teams within the past three weeks. Brett Favre and company had a great outing last time out and they should be great again this time around. Do not expect the Bucs to sit back and watch Favre's aerial show. The Bucs are out to prove that the impressive first half of the season was no fluke. Against a rising force like the Packers, this would be an ideal time to show. If the Bucs do not shake Favre up early, it could be over very quickly for Tampa. Prediction: Green Bay 43, Tampa Bay 23.

Bart's Overall Record: 22-22

Merry Christmas, everyone. Since Bart made some predictions about the ending of the season, Biff shall do the same. In the AFC, I believe that the Chiefs will go into the playoffs sporting the best record in the conference. Look for Indianapolis and Pittsburgh to also win their divisions. The wild card teams in the AFC will be Oakland, Miami, and Denver. In the NFC, Dallas, San Francisco, and Green Bay should easily win their divisions. I also expect the Eagles, Atlanta, and Chicago to win wild card spots. I still expect the Dolphins and Niners to meet in the Super Bowl in Arizona. Anyway, here's my picks for the week:

1) *Dallas at Philadelphia*: Dallas has

looked strong in the past few weeks following their loss to the Niners four weeks ago. The Eagles also have been very hot in their last few games. Philadelphia plays very well at home and they should be pumped for this NFC East showdown. Look for the Eagles to pull through in this one thanks to their grit. Prediction: Philadelphia 27, Dallas 15.

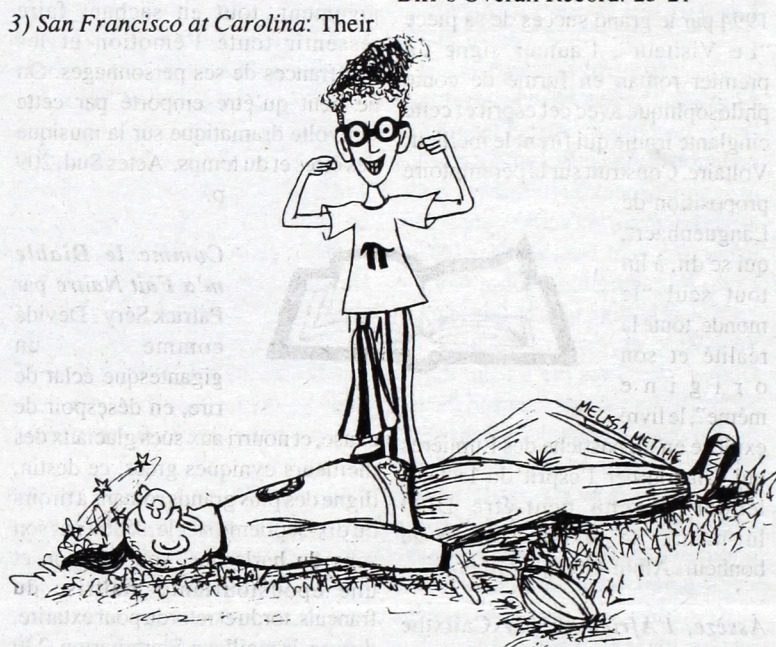
2) *Buffalo at St. Louis*: The Bills' luck seems to have run out. They have been fortunate to win some of their last few games. Injuries and lack of talent have contributed to their inconsistent play during this stretch. The Rams' game will be no cakewalk. They need this game to remain in the playoff hunt. The Rams are also one of the most exciting teams to watch because of head coach Rich Brooks' play-calling tactics. It'll be a close game but the home team should upset the Bills. Prediction: St. Louis 33, Buffalo 24.

3) *San Francisco at Carolina*: Their

first matchup was a shocker. Although outplayed during the whole game, the Panthers won the game thanks to some costly Niner turnovers. This time around, the Niners have Steve Young at the helm. They have also been playing like Super Bowl champs in recent weeks. The Niners will be up for this game since they have revenge on their minds. Prediction: San Francisco 41, Carolina 10.

4) *Green Bay at Tampa Bay*: It's the battle of the Bay of Pigs, part deux. Two weeks ago, the Pack blew out the Bucs thanks to Brett Favre's great performance. This year, the Big Sombrero has witnessed many home team victories, a feat which has not been accomplished in recent years. This is another must-win for the Bucs. But, they simply don't have the pressure experience that their opponents exemplify. Prediction: Green Bay 30, Tampa Bay 20.

Biff's Overall Record: 23-21



Hockey News

by Biff and Bart

Columnists

Can you believe this? If there is anything Bart & I can agree on, it's that we also love hockey. While Bart

loves the flashy European style of hockey, I prefer old time hockey with a lot of hitting and cheap stuff. Here we are, Biff and Bart together, giving our expert opinions about the outlook of the 2nd half of the NHL season.

Northern Division

Boston: With the return of Adam Oates, they are definitely a contender.

The only thing they are lacking is a leader between the pipes. Joey Mullen, Kevin Stevens, and Sean McCeachern have been disappointing thus far this season. They'll make the playoffs but will also be a casualty of war in the first round.

Buffalo: The Dominator. Without this goalie, they wouldn't be much. They also have depth in the net with the off-season acquisition of Andrei Trefilov. Pat LaFontaine may be out of Buffalo by the time you pick up your next issue of Lambda. The Sabres are already lacking offensive punch thanks to the loss of sniper Daniel Audette.

Hartford: Brendan Shanahan has been an effective player for the Whale this season. Nelson Emerson has re-emerged to the form he had 3 years back as a rookie. Sean Burke is one of the most underrated goaltenders in the league thanks to his stellar play. Hartford looks like they will be a playoff contender this year thanks to the contribution of these 3 players.

Montreal: The Blue, Blanc, et Rouge are in trouble. Controversy has surrounded this team since the beginning of the year. It's up to Mario Tremblay to bring this franchise back to its glory days this year or he will be gone by next year. With Patrick Roy in net, they will make the playoffs this year. Lack of experience on the blue line will prevent this team from moving on to bigger and better things. Oops! Patrick won't be there by the end of the year. So much for the playoffs.

Ottawa: The Senators may be moving to a new arena, but the results are still

the same. Inconsistent play surrounds this team and without Yashin they will continue to be the doormats of the league. Their offensive players are young and look like they have a great future. Unfortunately, we are in the present.

Pittsburgh: With the return of Mario, they have been unstoppable. Jaromir Jagr, Ron Francis, and the re-emergence of Tom Barasso have sparked this team. Their power play is ranked first in the league with an amazing conversion rate of 34%. This team should win the division and maybe even the conference.

Atlantic Division

Florida: Definitely the surprise team of the league so far this season. However, these are still Roger Neilson's boys. With Vanbiesbroek in goal and a solid defensive philosophy in place, they may just win this division. Scott Mellanby has been a great find this season. Rob Niedermayer, in only his 3rd year in the NHL, looks like a good one.

New Jersey: Without their 'trap,' they are not as effective as last year. However, with the solid defensive play of Stevens and Niedermayer, the puck hardly reaches the goalie. When it does, Martin Brodeur shuts the door. With the acquisition of Steve Thomas, they have another sniper to add to their lineup.

NY Islanders: This is indeed the worst team in the league this year. After trading away most of their top players, they don't have much depth and scoring ability with this team. This team will continue to slide since no

one individual has taken the leadership role.

NY Rangers: The Broadway Blueshirts are loaded with talent again. The 3 first lines could easily be the number one units on any other team. Their defensive game is not too shabby as well. Goaltending could be a negative factor on this team if they want to make a serious run for the playoffs.

Philadelphia: This team is the biggest, baddest, and meanest team in the league. With the Legion of Doom leading their offense, they are also well complimented by other individuals. Ron Hextall seems to have regained his youthful spirit and is often the individual who can win a game by himself.

Tampa Bay: The Esposito brothers are in trouble. Inconsistent play since their inception into the league may mean curtains for these 2 individuals. Darren Puppa and Brian Bradley are perhaps the only 2 marketable players on a team that somehow remains competitive. The playoffs look unattainable again for this team.

Washington: Jim "The Net Detective" Carey has proven that last year's rookie season was no fluke. Offensively they are led by Pat Peake, Joe Juneau, Peter Bondra, and Mikael Pivonka. These 4 individuals can do damage at any given moment in time. The defense is also solid. The only thing keeping this team away from the elite is consistency. This factor will play a major influence on the rest of their season.

Continued on page 26



Hockey Vees Feature



Bart prefers European-style hockey.

Continued from page 25

Central Division

Chicago: The Blackhawks are a tough team to figure out. They have undoubtedly the talent with stars such as Jeremy Roenick, Bernie Nicholls, and Ed Belfour, but yet they are classic underachievers. First year head coach Craig Hartsburg has a lot of work to do if he is willing to take this team to the next level.

Dallas: The Stars are a team that is unsure if it is willing to rise to the top or fall to the bottom. Led by Bob Gainey, they are a team that does not strike you with their offensive skills and their defensive skills are questionable. For the Stars to make some noise in the later part of the season, Mike Modano has to take his game to the next level.

Detroit: This is perhaps one of the best teams in the conference. They are strong in all areas of the game. Goaltending, defense, and goal scoring, they have it all. The only thing that may prevent them from winning another title are the individual egos of this team.

St. Louis: Iron Mike Keenan has taken this team from contender status to that of pretender. They are at best inconsistent and lack the leadership from their head man. However, they still have some big stars still on their roster. The only question is for how long?

Toronto: Mats Sundin is now the true captain of the team. Dave Andreychuk is on a decline along with other veterans such as Doug Gilmour and Jamie Macoun. Mike Gartner, Benoit Hogue, and Kenny Jonsson are having great years and look good in Maple Leaf blue.

Winnipeg: (Or is it Minnesota, Phoenix, or anywhere else in the States?) Teemu is back. He has shown everyone why he was chosen the rookie of the year a couple of years back. Tkachuk is perhaps one of the best power forwards in the league. But without star rookie Khabiboulin between the pipes, it is unknown whether they will be strong enough to win some games in the playoffs.

Pacific Division

Anaheim: Paul Kariya is indeed a Mighty Duck. In only his second year in the league, he has proven his worth to the team. However, with the loss of Van Allen and Sillinger, this team is lacking the firepower.

Calgary: The decline has begun. In

the past 2 years, this team has gone from being one of the best to one of the worst. Where is Cliff Fletcher when you need him? Where is Nieuwendyk, Otto, Reichel, Roberts, Vernon, MacInnis, or McDonald when you need them? This team may be better off trying to play for the lottery pick. A fan last week told Dan Hay president of the Flames that he enjoyed the new renovations which were done to the Saddledome. He said his season tickets were great. He told the owner that there was only one problem: his seats were facing the ice.

Colorado: This is probably the best team in the conference. This team changed their attitude since they moved from *la belle province*. This team does look like the team of the future. They have the potential to be the next dynasty club in the NHL. A likely showdown with Detroit is imminent to settle the bragging rights to the conference title.

Edmonton: This team only lacks experience since they possess tremendous talent. Getting rid of Shayne Corson may have been a mistake since they now have a lack of veteran leadership. Receiving Curtis Joseph is great on paper, however, he has yet to play a game for the Oilers.

Los Angeles: Gretzky seems to have refound his youth. With Khristich and Yachemenov flanked on his sides, he is once again one of the most dangerous players in the league. Combine this with the goaltending duo of Kelly Hrudey and Byron Dafoe (who?), and they may be able to make a move. Without Rob Blake, their defensive corps is weak at best and may be the missing link they need to get back to the finals.

San Jose: The firing of head coach Kevin Constantine may have been the best thing for the club. With Nolan, Sheppard, Janney, Whitney, and Friesen in the line up, this team does have fire power ability. However, inconsistent goaltending and a lack of blue line experience is the potential downfall for this club.

Vancouver: Pavel Bure is somewhere playing NHL All-Star '96 on some kind of home entertainment system. Alexander Mogilny has been nothing but spectacular this season and the Canucks are hoping that Linden brings his game to the same level very soon. Although strong in goaltending, they have rid themselves of the internal problems behind the scenes.

by Lianne Gagnon
Assistant Sports Editor

The Laurentian Hockey Vees' head coach David Hysky believes his team are playing "as well as I expected." The Vees have performed well this year by taking the lead in the OUAA's Mid West Division from the start of the season.

"I am working with a great group of guys," explains Hysky of his team. "There haven't been many problems away from the ice. Our coaching staff is the best its ever been and this team has good camaraderie."

Hysky believes that the one area that must be improved upon is team defence. "We have to be playing as a whole defensive unit to win."

When asked which offensive line he values the most, he responded "All of my players and lines are equally important."

Hysky played for the Hockey Vees between 1987-90 as a center before moving to play in England and Italy. While attending Laurentian, he studied sociology.

The Vees have four players among the top 11 scorers in the league. The following are their most prolific offensive players:

Kiley Hill - 15 goals, 9 assists = 24 points (7th in OUAA)
Darren Dougan - 10 goals, 13 assists = 23 points (8th in OUAA)
Brad Baber - 8 goals, 14 assists = 22 points (9th in OUAA)
Kevin MacKay - 7 goals, 12 assists = 19 points (11th in OUAA)

The Vees have a strong squad of former OHLers and NHL prospects from their goaltender to their first line center. Have a gander:

Name: Al Girouard
Number: #3
Position: defense
height: 5'11"
weight: 190 lbs.
age: 22 years
Year and Major: 1st - Arts
Hometown: Kapuskasing
Played for Previously: Timmins Golden Bears

Name: Corey Fletcher
Number: #4
Position: defense
height: 5'10"
weight: 200 lbs.
age: 21 years
Year and Major: 2nd - Law and Justice
Hometown: Sudbury
Played for Previously: Waterloo

Siskins

Name: Corey Murphy
Number: #5
Position: defense
height: 6'2"
weight: 215 lbs.
age: 23 years
Year and Major: 5th - Phys Ed.
Hometown: Sault Ste Marie
Played for Previously: Brockville Braves

Name: Kevin McKay
Number: #9
Position: right wing
height: 5'8"
weight: 180 lbs.
age: 24 years
Year and Major: 2nd - Arts
Hometown: Sault Ste Marie
Played for Previously: West Palm Beach (semi pro), Windsor Spitfires, (was included with Tampa Bay Lightning Club)

Name: Chris McCarthy
Number: #35
Position: goalie
height: 5'11"
weight: 165 lbs.
age: 20 years
Year and Major: 2nd - Arts
Hometown: Baumanville
Played for Previously: Baumanville

Name: Carson Lewis
Number: #10
Position: left wing
height: 6'2"
weight: 190 lbs.
age: 20 years
Year and Major: 2nd - Arts
Hometown: Kingston
Played for Previously: Rayside Juniors

Name: David Gartshore
Number: #
Position: centre
height: 5'10"
weight: 175 lbs.
age: 23 years
Year and Major: 2nd - Business
Hometown: Sault Ste Marie
Played for Previously: Lake Superior State

Name: Jordan Scruton
Number: #16
Position: centre
height: 5'10"
weight: 200 lbs.
age: 21 years
Year and Major: 2nd - Arts
Hometown: Barrie
Played for Previously: Orillia Terriers

Name: Duane Lewis
Number: #17
Position: right wing
height: 6'3"
weight: 195 lbs.

age: 23 years
Year and Major: 4th - Sociology
Hometown: Georgetown
Played for Previously: Georgetown

Name: David Graff
Number: #19
Position: defense
height: 6'0"
weight: 185 lbs.
age: 21 years
Year and Major: 2nd - Arts
Hometown: Nipean
Played for Previously: Nipean Raiders

Name: Rick Borthwick
Number: #20
Position: left wing
height: 6'1"
weight: 195 lbs.
age: 23 years
Year and Major: 4th - Sociology
Hometown: Burlington
Played for Previously: Oakville Blades

Name: Jeff Paquette
Number: #8
Position: left wing
height: 6'1"
weight: 190 lbs.
age: 20 years
Year and Major: 2nd - Commerce
Hometown: Sudbury
Played for Previously: Cambridge Winter Hawks

Name: Dan Rondeau
Number: #11
Position: centre
height: 5'9"
weight: 175 lbs.
age: 20 years
Year and Major: 3rd - Phys Ed.
Hometown: Verner
Played for Previously: Sturgeon Falls

Name: Mike Carr
Number: #15
Position: right wing
height: 5'11"
weight: 180 lbs.
age: 21 years
Year and Major: 2nd - Law and Justice
Hometown: Saskatchewan
Played for Previously: Ottawa 67's

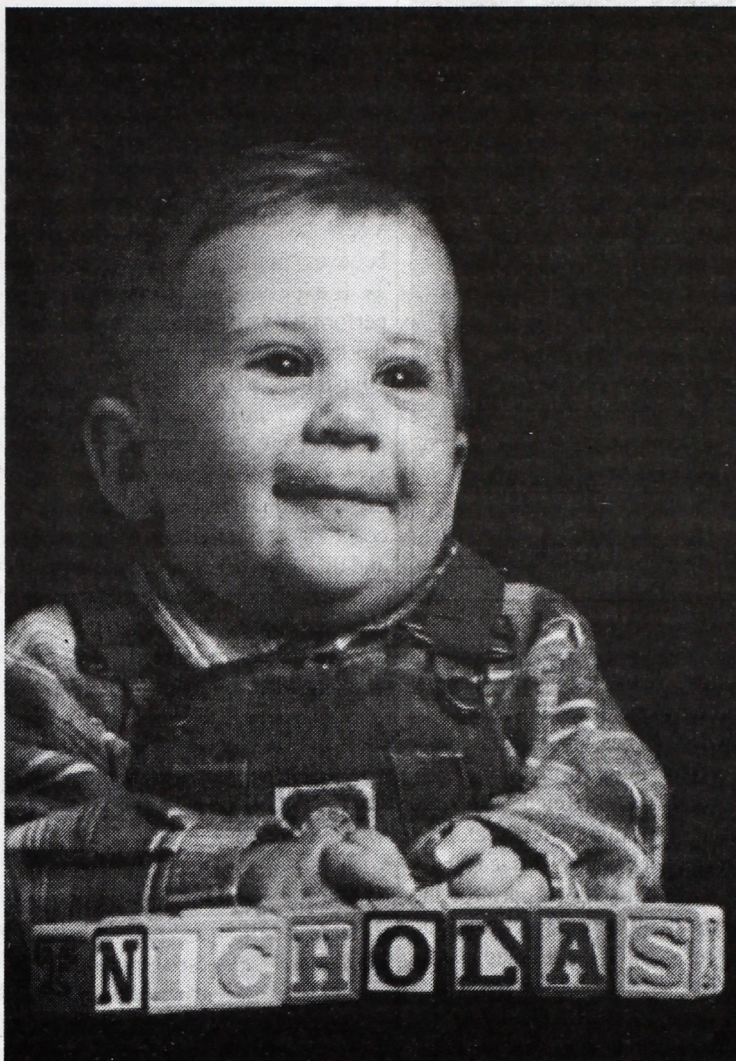
Name: Darren Dougan
Number: #21
Position: centre
height: 6'0"
weight: 192 lbs.
age: 22 years
Year and Major: 3rd - Arts
Hometown: Azilda
Played for Previously: Owen Sound, Windsor Spitfires, Sudbury Wolves, Niagara Falls, (attended Florida Panther training camp)

Name: Pat Armetage



Number: #22	Year and Major: 2nd - Arts
Position: left wing	Hometown: Ottawa
height: 5'10"	Played for Previously: Smith Falls Bears
weight: 180 lbs.	
age: 22 years	
Year and Major: 3rd - Arts	Name: Cory Evans
Hometown: Barrie	Number: #26
Played for Previously: Barrie Colts	Position: left wing
	height: 6'1"
	weight: 220 lbs.
	age: 21 years
	Year and Major: 1st - Arts
Name: Brad Baber	
Number: #23	
Position: centre	
height: 5'11"	
weight: 185 lbs.	
age: 21 years	Hometown: Sault Ste Marie
Year and Major: 1st - Environmental Science	Played for Previously: Windsor Spitfires, London Knights
Hometown: Sault Ste Marie	
Played for Previously: Sault Greyhounds	Name: Sean Spencer
	Number: #30
	Position: goalie
	height: 5'8"
	weight: 165 lbs.
	age: 23 years
	Year and Major: 2nd - Arts
	Hometown: Keewatin
	Played for Previously: Ottawa 67's, (has dressed for the Hartford Whalers)
Name: Kiley Hill	Name: Cary Ross
Number: #24	Number: #33
Position: left wing	Position: goalie
height: 6'3"	height: 5'11"
weight: 210 lbs.	weight: 180 lbs.
age: 20 years	age: 23 years
Year and Major: 1st - Commerce	Year and Major: 4th - Native Studies
Hometown: Valley East	Hometown: Sault Ste Marie
Played for Previously: Sudbury Wolves, Sault Greyhounds, Newmarket, (Tampa Bay Lightning 6th round Draft Pick)	Played for Previously: Saint Maries High
Name: Maurizio Piamante	
Number: #25	
Position: defense	
height: 5'11"	
weight: 185 lbs.	
age: 22 years	

Good-bye Baby



to know that I love you with every breath I take and with every beat of my heart.

As I held you on that hospital bed, I held you tight and kissed you a million times. Although the doctors told me you were gone, I sang your favorite song, like I would do at night before I would put you to bed. I never knew if I had all the words right, but you didn't care. You would just lean your head on my shoulder, fall asleep, and I would feel your soft breath on my neck.

Habillé en rouge et blanc
Sur un traineau, porté par le vent
Il descendra par la cheminée
Petit garçon, il est l'heure d'allé se coucher
Tes yeux s'endorment
Regarde les étoiles
Tout est calme
Sur le toit, on entend
Les clochettes tintinabuler
Et demain matin, petit garçon
Tu trouvera dans tes chaussons
Tous les jouets dont tu as revé
Petit garçon, il est l'heure d'allé se coucher

And there, in that hospital room, I put you to sleep one last time.

No matter how much I miss you, sweetie, I'm angry. I'm so angry! I don't understand why you're gone. You loved life. I remember how your beautiful blue eyes lit up with amazement when you first saw our Christmas light. You loved to get in trouble and giggle when you got caught. How could anyone stay mad at you?

Why are you gone, baby? You weren't even eleven months old. You never saw your first Christmas and we never celebrated your first birthday. I had such big plans for my big boy. You were going to be the next star on the Laurentian Hockey team. I was going to introduce you to your future coach on your birthday. But now, none of this can happen and I'm angry.

I'm afraid I'm not handling this very well, sweetie. I'm trying to be strong, and to go on but it's so hard. I keep telling myself that now, you're healthy, and happy, and you will never suffer. Although that gives me some comfort, it will never be enough. I only wish I could have had a little more time with you, so I could have given you the things you never had. I wish I could have given you a stable home with a mother and a father but I'm reassured in the fact that no one could have loved you more than me.

My precious angel, be good. Please find a way to help your mommy cope. Please give me the strength to continue living and I promise to keep your memory alive for always.

I love you, my precious Nicholas. Even though you were my angel on earth, I know you now walk with the angels in heavens. But baby, please don't bump your head.

Good-bye my love, Mom t'aime, chéri.

by Lianne Gagnon
Mother

Nicholas Maurice Gagnon was born on January 2nd, 1995, at 10:37 p.m. From the moment I laid my eyes on him, I was in love. He was so perfect and tiny and God! he was beautiful. He had the most beautiful blue eyes in the world. Dozens of friends and family came to see him, yet not a sound he would utter. He was passed from hand to hand, perfectly content in all the love and warmth he felt—UNTIL I BROUGHT HIM HOME! For the next six weeks, he cried constantly in my arms, until one day he just stopped, and he was amazing again. He started laughing and smiling at everyone he met, except for Santa Claus.

Before I knew it, he was crawling and trying to catch the family dog. At nine and a half months old, he started walking. The cupboard doors flew open, shampoo bottles and floor cleaners covered the floor, and potted plants became excellent sandboxes. I think he might have been a plumber with the way he always had his hands in the toilet bowl or his head in the dishwasher.

On Thursday, November 30th, we had such a wonderful day. We played together on the floor. I took you for your first sleigh ride, which you enjoyed so much. You loved to watch the snow fall. Then, for the first time in a long time, I held you in my arms and rocked you to sleep. I know you're a big boy and I know you didn't need me to do it, but I just wanted to hold you close. But my darling, on that same day, God took your breath away and left me all alone. I know you're in a better place, but I'm selfish and I want you here with your mommy. I just wanted you

Watch for 3-on-3 Basketball

by Angela Lilly
Contributor

A leprechaun has been sighted running around the L.U. gymnasium in preparation for this year's 3-on-3 Intramural Basketball Tournament! YES, FANS—the annual 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament is back for another great and exciting day of some groovy moves and interviews. Mark the 17th of March, 1996 on your calendar because you will be busy in the Ben Avery Gymnasium. Registration occurs Monday, February 5th, 1996 and runs till Thursday, February 8th, 1996 at the Active Living Office. The league can only accommodate 12 men's teams and 12 women's teams; early registration is encouraged. Full-time or part-time faculty, staff, or student combinations are eligible. The cost is only \$5.00 per player and is due at the time of registration. Even though the tournament is four months away, this early notice should allow you to get your championship team together and all your plays together. In the meantime, if you have any questions please contact Angela at 671-3679.

Hit the Trails

Attention, Laurentian Students! If you are the type of person that likes having fun in the snow, then are you in for a good time at this year's Intramural Cross-Country Skiing event. This year the event will commence on **February 2, 1996** at the Laurentian ski trails located behind the stadium. Again, this year there will be a team obstacle course race and a general ski race to follow. A raffle ticket will be given to a participant each time a loop of the trail has been skied. At the end of the race, tickets will be drawn for various prizes. All participants will receive a raffle ticket just for coming out.

Therefore be sure to bring up your skis after Christmas if you do not already have them here. Do not worry if you do not own skis because you will be able to rent them behind the stadium the day of the event for a nominal fee (about \$2.50). Skiers of all levels are encouraged to come out. Even if you have never skied before, do not be afraid to come out and have fun learning. So be sure to grab your friends and sign up for this unforgettable event. Sign-ups for this event will be between **January 8-18** at the **Active Living Department** located in the Ben Avery Building. There is no entry fee for this event. For more information, contact Andrew Jamieson at 673-6956.

Ready to Get Wet?

by Kevin "Chips" Davey
Contributor

Are you bored of standard, run of the mill intramural sports such as hockey, basketball, and volleyball? Is it time for a change of pace? Well, get ready for refreshing action and excitement, boys and girls! Laurentian University's Intramural Sports program is proud to announce a unique upcoming event. Interested L.U. students will be given the opportunity to participate in a Co-ed Innertube Water Polo tournament. L. U.'s Olympic Gold pool will be the site of this interesting tournament to be held February 10-11, 1996. Over that weekend, eight teams of 10-15 enthusiastic players will battle it out for bragging rights to pool supremacy. As well, creativity, MVP, and championship prizes will be up for grabs, courtesy of our local sponsors.

Registration for Innertube Water Polo will be held January 8-16, and the entry fee is a meager ten dollars per team. Registration is limited to the first eight teams, so be sure to get in line as early as possible in order to avoid disappointment. For further information, feel free to contact Kevin at 673-9742.

World Soccer News

by Takis Zervas
Columnist

Christmas holidays is approaching, my soccer friends. The study crunch is here, the party is over but soccer never ends. This week, my soccer friends, you receive an early Christmas gift with a 32-page *Lambda* paper and a large soccer info-page. A full package soccer page of European, South American, African, and Asian soccer news.

European Soccer

In Italy, only three months into the season and already **Juventus**, the reigning champions, have discovered the truth of the old sporting cliché about the difficulties of defending a title. In Italy, only one false step is needed for fans and media alike to start asking questions. Yet, in a two-week period, **Juventus** took three false steps, losing to **Milan** and **Lazio** in

the League and being knocked out of the Italian Cup by **Atlanta**. These three defeats would in themselves have been enough to prompt a nation wide inquest but the nature of the third loss, a 4-0 drubbing from **Lazio**, positively set the alarm bells ringing throughout the sports media. Even the impressive start in the Champions League, with three straight wins against **Borussia Dortmund**, **Steaua Bucharest**, and **Rangers**, has not been enough to silence **Juventus'** critics. It seems that the problem with **Juventus** is that the team is tired physically and mentally. The injury list has certainly been a long one but club spokesmen dismiss categorically suggestions that the heavy workload of the last 15 months has finally begun to wear down the players. **Juventus** is still a good side, but their missing that killer instinct of last year.

In Spain, **Barcelona** coach Johan Cruyff received a five game

touch line ban and was fined \$5,200 for insulting gestures and verbal abuse directed at the referee in the League match against **Valencia**. The League disciplinary committee found the **Barcelona** boss guilty of sticking his finger in the air and tapping his cheek to indicate that he thought the referee was cheating in his side's 1-0 home win. Cruyff is alleged to have shouted 'son of a bitch' and 'bastard' at the official after being shown the red card.

In Germany, another of Germany's all-time greats, Uwe Seeker, has taken over as president of his former home town club, **Hamburger SV**, mirroring Franz Beckenbauer's acceptance of the



presidency at **Bayern Munich**.

In Austria, Second Division **FC Linz** reported the most remarkable signing of the season so far! Mexican international Hugo Sanchez, 37, has joined them after a summer stint in America, and now obviously rejected his MLA contract in the States for next season. Sanchez scored twice in his debut, a 4-0 win over **First Vienna**. Expect a few more back flips yet.

In Switzerland, Roy Hodgson who has taken the Swiss national side to their first World Cup finals in 28 years and now to the brink of the European Championship finals, intends to continue looking after the team as a part-timer until the conclusion of Euro '96. That's the good news. The bad news is that after that he will be lost to Swiss football, having agreed to become **Internazionale's** coach in Italy.

In Ireland, the FAI Player of

the Year seems sure to be from **Aston-Villa** - Paul McGarth, Steve Staunton, or Andy Townsend.

In Portugal, times are hard for **Belenenses**, the only club other than **Benfica**, **Sporting**, and **Porto** to win the Portuguese championship. They did so back in 1946 and ever since then, they have returned to the top division after relegation. Money, or lack of it, is one problem. They owe the taxman, the phone company, and others, including players. Emerson, who left **Belenenses** for **Porto**, claims he is due two months' wages, and hopes to get the money without legal action.

In Greece, **PAOK Salonika** lost their Dutch coach, Arie Haan, who left to join Dutch club **Feyenoord**. **PAOK** are seeking \$440,000 from Haan in compensation for breaking his contract.

In Croatia, one of Croatia's best players, Igor Stimac, has left **Hajduk Split** to sign a three-year deal with England's **Derby County**. Stimac, an English-style defender who is particular strong in the air, has Richard Gere's looks, is married to a former Miss Yugoslavia, and has two young children.

In Poland, former national team coach Andrzej Sterjlaw is back after a two-year break. He is in charge of **Zaglebie Lubin**.

South American Soccer

In Uruguay, Uruguayan soccer is still in financial difficulty, and only three clubs, **Penarol**, **River Plate**, and **Defensor Sporting**, are up to date with payments... Midfielder Juan Carrasco, who has played for 12 clubs, has rejoined **Nacional**. He made his debut for them in 1974, and is now 39.

In Peru, two clubs have exchanged their coaches, with Chilean Ramon Estay going to **Municipal** and Peruvian Cesar Uribe joining **Alianza Lima**.

In Brazil, Flavio Zandona of **Velez Sarsfield** has been suspended for four games after hitting Edmundo of **Flamengo** at the end of a Supercup match. Edmundo and team mate Romario, who had joined in the disturbance, were banned for two matches. Zandona received support from Brazilian journalists, who said that Edmundo had it coming.

In Argentina, Joe Pastoriza, coach of **Argnetinos Juniors**, has left the club to become national coach of Guatemala. Roberto Saporiti has taken over... **River Plate**, whose play-maker Enzo Francescoli was recently named top player of the 1994-95 season by soccer journalists, also signed Mexican international Alberto Garcia Aspe. He has yet to make a full appearance, but his presence caused discontent among some players because he will be getting more money than any of them, \$200,000 for four months.

African Soccer

In Sierra Leone, Roger Palmgren who once worked with Sven-Goran Eriksson at **Sampdoria**,



will lead the Sierra Leone national side at January's Nations Cup finals. Mighty **Blackpool** finished top of the table at the half-way stage of the championship and now qualify for the West African Football Union Cup next season.

In Gambia, **Real Banjul** have been suspended from African competition for a year for walking off after 70 minutes of their African Champions Cup second leg against **Mbilinga** of Gabon in Libreville in protest at the referee. They were disqualified and **Mbilinga** went through to the quarter-finals.

In Zaire, **Daring Club** of Motama Pemba, winners of the African Cup-winners Cup last December, have lost their stranglehold on Zaire's Independence Cup. They went out in the quarter-finals to a last-minute goal for **Saint-Eloi Lupopo**. The trophy was won by **AC Sodigraf** of Kinshasa, who hammered **Mbong Sports** 4-0 in the final.

In Uganda, Timothy Ayeikoh has taken over from Polly Ouma as Uganda's national team coach. Ouma resigned after Uganda's failure to qualify for the Nations Cup finals. Ayeikoh's appointment has not proved popular with fans and media, who have been clamouring for David Otti.

In South Africa, **Orlando Pirates**, last year's champions and third in the table, have signed Liberian international Friday Roberts, fourth-placed **Kaizer Chiefs** have hired Jeff Butler as coach, his third spell with the team... Zambian international Wedson Nyirenda has left Cape Town club **Hellenic** to join **Al-Riyadh** in Saudi Arabia.

In Northern Africa, former French and Cameroon national team manager Henri Michel has taken over as national coach of Morocco from Brazilian Gilson Siqueira Nunes. The Moroccans failed to qualify for the Nations Cup. Zambian striker Kenneth Malitoli has spurned an offer from Saudi Arabia and stays with Tunisia's **Esperance**.

Asian Soccer

In China, four referees and a competition supervisor have been

suspended by the Chinese FA as a result of allegations of corruption and incompetence. The majority of referees stand accused of 'taking the red package' - in other words, accepting cash which usually arrives from banks in red wrapping paper.

In Indonesia, following the example of Roger Milla, who abandoned his umpteenth comeback at **Tonnere Yaounde** to join **Pelita Jaya** in Indonesia, there has been an African invasion of the South East Asian nation. Fourteen African footballers are now playing in Indonesia, made up of eight Cameroonians, four Angolans and two Zairians. The Angola contingent includes Abel Campos and Vata Garcia, who have both played for **Benefica**. **Pupuk Kaltim** have signed current Cameroonian internationals Jean-Pierre Mbvoum and Justin Imandy, while Kuyangana Makukula of Zaire has signed for **Medan Jaya**.

In Asian women's soccer, goals by Sun Wen and Fan Yunjie gave China a 2-0 victory over Japan and enabled them to win the Asian Women's football championship for the fifth time in a row. Nine other teams took part in the event, staged in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.

In Iran, leaders **Bahman** beat **Malajan** 2-0 in the 14th round of the Iranian League, to maintain their place at the top. **Bahman** will play **Vostok** of Kazakhstan in the second round of the Asian Cup-winners Cup.

In Bangladesh, goals by Aslam, the 172nd of his career, and Jahangir to one by Baba gave **Abahani KC** a 2-1 win over **Mohammedan** in their vital Bangladesh League clash.

In Oman, Italy won the Oman Under-17 international youth tournament, beating Saudi Arabia 2-1.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year, my soccer friends. Quote of the week in the soccer world: "It's not the end of the world. Just the end of Europe." (**Liverpool** boss Roy Evans after his side's UEGA Cup defeat by Brondby.)



A Dying Breed

by Rick Dennie
Staff Writer

Recently at an off campus party, I decided, probably due to my state of intoxication, to roam around the house. I walked downstairs to the basement and was surprised at what I saw and heard: a group of guys sitting around talking about CFL football. This was not a typical sports conversation where the CFL happens to become a brief topic. This was a full fledged, in depth, heated debate on one of this country's national sporting leagues. At first, it was hard for me to believe what I saw, and I could have blamed it on my drunkenness, but instead I came to the conclusion that these guys were part of a dying breed: they were true CFL fans.

Being a sports fan, I decided to join the conversation. I recognized a few of the bigger names and was able to follow the technical talk, but I quickly realized that these guys were out of my league. They knew rosters, rookies, trade talks, managerial details, everything. It blew my mind. Needless to say, I quickly realized that I did not fit in and



returned upstairs.

I used to think that I was a CFL fan. I followed the games and was interested in scores and highlights. I knew all the big names in the league, like Flutie and Dunnigan, and even had a favourite team. I went as far as having a B.C. Lions banner on my wall as a kid. It was a mild shock for me to realize that my knowledge of the game did not rival theirs. In fact, more and more I find myself losing interest in a league that I avidly followed.

This is a phenomenon that can apply to many sports fans in Canada, especially the younger ones. The league is just not as cherished as it used to be and it seems to have lost its appeal to the Canadian public.

A lot of people do not realize that the CFL was once a stronghold in Canadian sports. My dad animatedly recalls the big names of the past that he used to love to watch, such as Russ Jackson, QB for the Ottawa Roughriders or Sam Etcheverry, also a QB but for the folded Montreal Alouettes. He can remember playing football as a kid and pretending to be one of the CFL greats. That is something you rarely see nowadays because kids would much rather be Steve Young than Danny McManus.

A reason for this decline in the league's popularity is that the league has lost its appeal for the

Canadian sports fan. The CFL lost a number of fans when commissioner Larry Smith awarded franchises to cities south of the border. There are also fewer Canadian players who make a name for themselves. Aside from exceptions like Dave Spunjis of the Calgary Stampeders, most of the marquee players are American and did not graduate from the ranks of the CIAU. My dad, who was at one time a huge CFL fan, has lost total interest in the league for these reasons.

Also, the CFL has lost many of its fans to the NFL and its huge commercial appeal. The CFL and its smaller markets cannot keep up with a sporting powerhouse such as the National Football League. It has to win the hearts of Canadians through other means. One way is to become Canadian again.

As the Grey Cup has been played for another year, I cannot help but wonder how many people watching the game knew as much about the league as the guys I listened to at the party. Not as many as in past years, I'm afraid. But let's hope that there are enough of these guys around to keep this part of our heritage alive and flourishing for years to come. I would love to see my kids sporting Edmonton Eskimo caps and playing CFL style football in my back yard some day.

49ers' Jerry Rice plays in the more popular NFL

Pro Sports: Tim Talks Travel

by Tim Taylor
Staff Writer

No matter where you look in sports, change is happening. This is not just with uniforms being altered to the colours of teal and mauve; this also includes the moving of teams from one city to another. The root behind this evil is money, and the owners are throwing tradition by the wayside.

In the land of hockey, the largest debates this off-season were over the destinations of two of the eight Canadian Hockey teams. The Winnipeg Jets and the Quebec Nordiques. Les Nordiques found themselves unable to support last season's second best team. The Nordiques were full of high-flying talent, had the Calder trophy winner Peter Forsberg, a goaltending tandem ranked ninth in the league with sophomore Jocelyn Thibault leading the way with a 2.34 GAA, and first year coach Marc Crawford as the Jack Adams Coach-of-the-Year. As impressive as this team was, they had to pack their bags for the mountains of Colorado. Similarly, the Jets were going to move to Minnesota due to



financial constraints, but stayed at the last minute, only to decide that at the end of the current season, they are

going to go to Minnesota after all. Speaking of Minnesota, the old North Stars moved to Dallas prior to the 93-94 season, citing their inability to strike a reasonable rent deal in order to stay in Minnesota. The latest to ride the winds of change now appears to be the third-year Florida Panthers. Despite possessing the best record in the NHL, owner Wayne Huizenga wants out. Although he would like to see the team stay in South Florida, he has been courting offers from Charlotte, North Carolina.

The NFL has become the largest offenders in the movement of teams. Prior to this season, both Los Angeles teams moved to different cities. The largest amount of press was given to the Rams for their move to St. Louis, while the Raiders quietly returned to Oakland. The Cleveland Browns are on their way to Baltimore next season (I hope they change their name at least - what is a Brown and why should I fear it?), despite their healthy tradition in Cleveland. On Pittsburgh's meeting with the Browns

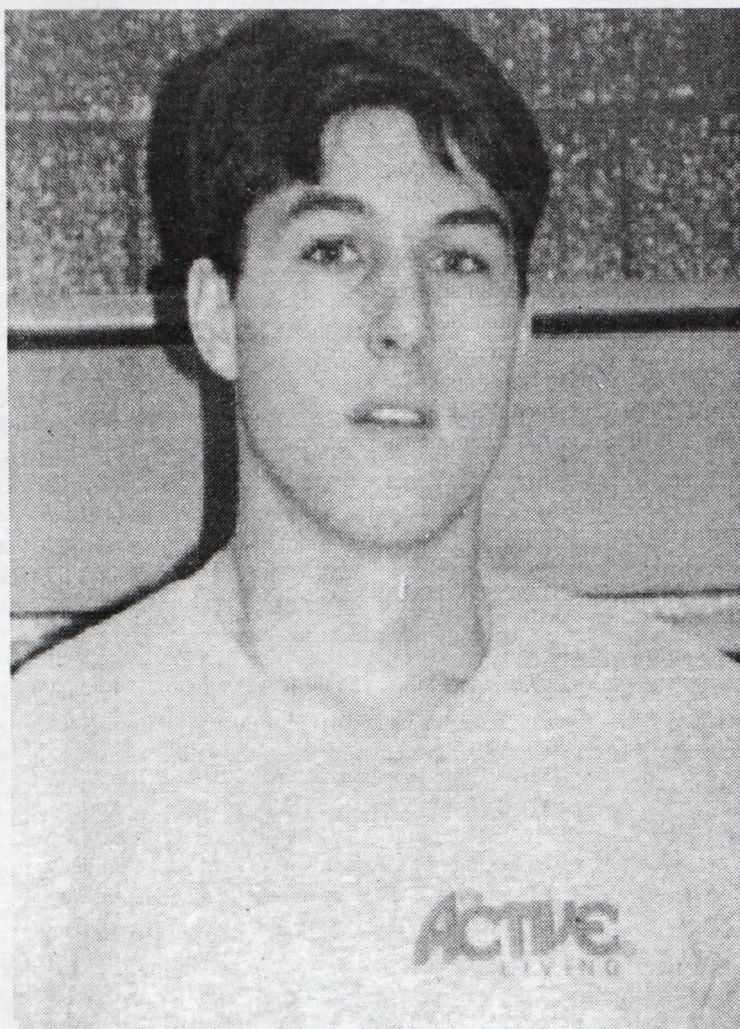
this past November 13th, the Steelers considered wearing an orange stripe on their uniforms to protest the move of their biggest rival (which makes me ask why the Browns have an orange helmet, not brown). On the heels of Cleveland's intentions to move, the Houston Oilers announced their plans to move to Nashville, Tennessee by the start of the 1998 season, maybe sooner, and the Chicago Bears have received an offer to relocate to Indiana. If the second largest market in North America, Los Angeles, can lose two teams in one off-season, what is to stop the tradition-rich Bears from leaving the Windy City, or the Browns from leaving the Mistake by the Lake?

Major League Baseball is not wholly innocent either. The Houston Astros have been considering a move. The Montreal Expos, the ultimate in small market teams, have been wanting to move in order to make some money and afford the players they need to make them win. Three seasons ago, the Pittsburgh Pirates almost left Pittsburgh for a stronger financial climate.

With money paving the way for change, owners are lured to move teams to new cities, forgetting completely about the fans that support them through thick and thin and the players that made these teams special. With these changes taking place, what will be next, the Seattle Canadians?

Paul Rainville Profile

by Rick Dennie
Staff Writer



Anyone who has followed the Volleyball Vees over the past four years will without a doubt recognize the subject of this profile. Not only should this name be recognized, but what Paul Rainville has been able to accomplish during his time here should be known and appreciated.

Paul, a native of Burlington, Ontario, is a fourth year French physical education student. During his days at Assumption High School, he was a versatile athlete. Among the sports he played were soccer and badminton. He also earned MVP honours for basketball and, of course, volleyball.

Once at L.U., he had aspirations of playing either basketball or volleyball. Luckily for the volleyball program, he opted to try out for them as a walk-on. He made the team without any trouble and there has been no looking back since then.

His first year was a good one. As a 6'5" power player, he was rookie of the year and managed to work his way into the starting line-up by the midpoint of the season. He has been an offensive leader since his arrival to the team as his statistics will show. Last year, he managed to finish in the top ten in scoring in the province, which is quite a feat.

As an athlete, Paul possesses many qualities which allow for such success. He is a solid player who can often be over-powering offensively. When needed, he can carry the offensive burden which he has sometimes been forced to do in the past. He is a leader and has been team captain since his second year. He is a very versatile volleyball player. He can play any position, including setter. That notion has been considered many times throughout his career.

Watch for Paul to have another successful season in 1995-96. He is currently sixth in the province among scoring leaders and is helping the Vees as best as he can. Becoming an OUAA All-Star is definitely within Paul's reach, especially if he maintains his offensive totals. This season, he must lead a very young team in what can be considered a rebuilding year. "We've taken steps in the right direction and I am sure that we can surprise someone in the playoffs," he says of his season outlook. This is especially possible if Paul continues his role as the Vees' leader and integral offensive player.

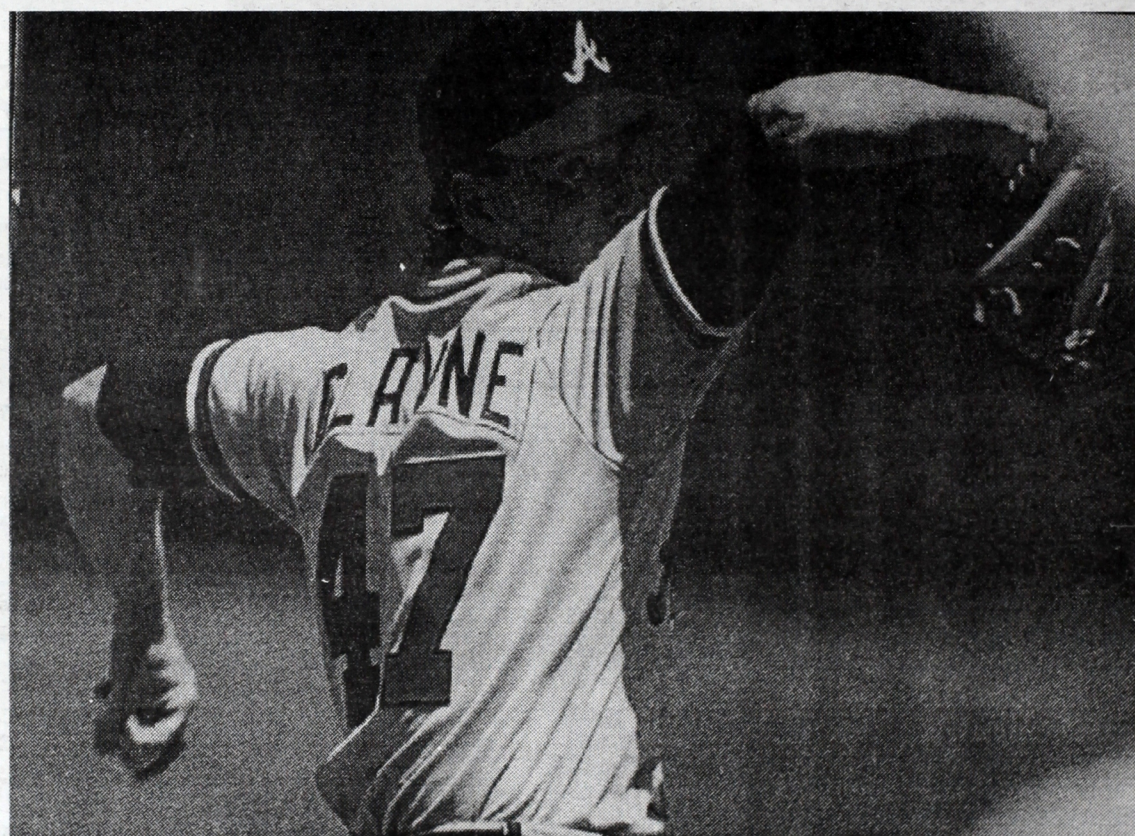
Maddux, Johnson: Decent Pitchers

by Tim Taylor
Staff Writer

"Cy Young," one of my friends began to tell me a few weeks ago, "belongs to only one man: Greg Maddux." My friend went on to say, "The only way that title can be stripped from him is when he loses it, not because someone better will come along." He did not need to convince me. Look at the numbers: Maddux went 19-2 in only 28 starts this year, carrying an amazing 1.63 ERA. His 181 strike-outs were ranked third in the National League this year, behind the Dodger's Hideo Nomo and his Atlanta Braves teammate, John Smoltz. He gave up a mere 23 walks, giving him a ratio of 7.87 strike-outs for every man he walks, and 7.79 strike-outs for every 9 innings pitched. This may seem like just a bunch of numbers, but what it all comes down to is that Maddux is simply amazing. He does not over-power hitters with speed, but he dazzles them with finesse. He has now won the prestigious National League Cy Young award, given to the league's

best pitcher, for an unprecedented fourth consecutive year after being unanimously voted to receive the award last Monday.

Similarly, Randy Johnson of the Seattle Mariners was the clear favourite in the American League to win the Cy young award receiving 26 of the 28 first place votes. Cleveland's Jose Mesa received the other two votes. Johnson was 18-2 this year, giving him a .900 win percentage, the highest ever by a pitcher with 20 decisions. Johnson, the tallest man ever to play in the majors at 6'11", also led the American League with a 2.48 ERA, 294 strike-outs, and an opponent's batting average of .201. Unlike Maddux, Johnson comes out firing bullets. He will not finesse the ball over the plate; he simply muscled a 99 m.p.h. fastball past any and all hitters. He also gave his team mates confidence that they would win every time he went out on the mound. On top of his 18 wins, he won a one game playoff series against California, played hero against the New York Yankees by winning his only start, and made a remarkable 3-inning relief appearance to win Game Five. Against the Cleveland Indians, he went 1-1 to finish 4-1 in the post season without making it to the World Series. Without a doubt, Johnson was the class of the '95 American League pitchers, as his Cy Young



Atlanta Braves' Tom Glavine: future Cy Young winner?

award would indicate.

Having the opportunity to watch either man pitch, anyone can see that if these men remain consistent, the coveted Cy Young may rest in their hands for years to come.

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L.U. Varsity Schedule

by Aonghus Kealy
Sports Editor



This is it. There is no excuse for poor attendance at any of the varsity games. Before you is the complete varsity schedule for the remainder of the 1995-96 campaign. The Voyageurs and Lady Vees require your support in order to maintain Laurentian's winning tradition. Entrance fees are never costly but the Varsity Vee experience is unforgettable and worthy of a few dollars. You probably already know at least one varsity athlete somewhere on campus. He or she will undoubtedly appreciate some more fans in the stands for 1996. Come out and enjoy yourself! Get involved!

NOTE: In the schedule below, the hockey games which have one asterisk will be played at Sudbury Arena while the games marked with two asterisks will be played at Countryside Arena. All home games or meets for basketball, swimming, and volleyball will take place at the Ben Avery Physical Education Building.

Women's Basketball

Thu. Dec. 28 to Sat. Dec. 30, 1995	Waterloo Invitational	TBA
Sat. Jan. 6, 1996	York at Laurentian	6:15 p.m.
Fri. Jan. 12, 1996	Queen's at Laurentian	8:15 p.m.
Sun. Jan. 14, 1996	Toronto at Laurentian	4:00 p.m.
Fri. Jan. 19, 1996	Laurentian at Ryerson	6:00 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 20, 1996	Laurentian at York	6:00 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 27, 1996	Ryerson at Laurentian	6:15 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 2, 1996	Laurentian at Ottawa	6:30 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 3, 1996	Laurentian at Carleton	6:00 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 9, 1996	Ottawa at Laurentian	6:15 p.m.
Sun. Feb. 11, 1996	Carleton at Laurentian	4:00 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 16, 1996	Laurentian at Queen's	6:00 p.m.
Sun. Feb. 18, 1996	Laurentian at Toronto	2:00 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 23 to Sun. Feb. 25, 1996	OWIAA Championships at York	TBA
Fri. Mar. 8 to Sun. Mar. 10, 1996	CIAU National Championships at Laval	TBA

Men's Basketball

Fri. Dec. 29 to Sat. Dec. 30, 1996	Holiday Classic	TBA
Sat. Jan. 6, 1996	York at Laurentian	8:15 p.m.
Fri. Jan. 12, 1996	Queen's at Laurentian	6:15 p.m.
Sun. Jan. 14, 1996	Toronto at Laurentian	2:00 p.m.
Fri. Jan. 19, 1996	Laurentian at Ryerson	8:00 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 20, 1996	Laurentian at York	8:00 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 27, 1996	Ryerson at Laurentian	8:15 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 2, 1996	Laurentian at Ottawa	8:30 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 3, 1996	Laurentian at Carleton	8:00 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 9, 1996	Ottawa at Laurentian	8:15 p.m.
Sun. Feb. 11, 1996	Carleton at Laurentian	2:00 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 16, 1996	Laurentian at Queen's	8:00 p.m.
Sun. Feb. 18, 1996	Laurentian at Toronto	4:00 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 24, 1996	East Men's Semi-Finals	2:00 p.m.
Sat. Mar. 2, 1996	East Championship Final	2:00 p.m.
Sat. Mar. 9, 1996	Wilson Cup - Men's Finals	2:00 p.m.
Fri. Mar. 15 to Sun. Mar. 17, 1996	CIAU National Championships at Halifax	TBA

Men's Hockey

Thu. Dec. 28 to Sat. Dec. 30, 1995	Concordia Tournament	TBA
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Fri. Jan. 5, 1996	Laurentian at York	7:30 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 13, 1996	Laurentian at Laurier	7:00 p.m.
Sun. Jan. 14, 1996	Laurentian at Waterloo	2:00 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 20, 1996	Guelph at Laurentian	7:00 p.m. *
Sun. Jan. 21, 1996	Toronto at Laurentian	2:45 p.m. **
Fri. Jan. 26, 1996	Laurentian at Queen's	7:30 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 27, 1996	Laurentian at RMC	2:00 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 3, 1996	Western at Laurentian	7:30 p.m. **
Sun. Feb. 4, 1996	Windsor at Laurentian	2:45 p.m. **
Sat. Feb. 10, 1996	Laurier at Laurentian	7:00 p.m. *
Fri. Feb. 16, 1996	Laurentian at Ryerson	7:45 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 17, 1996	Laurentian at Brock	7:30 p.m.
Tues. Feb. 20, 1996	Division Semi-Finals	(Best of Three)
Thu. Feb. 22 to Mon. Feb. 26, 1996	Division Finals	(Best of Three)
Fri. Mar. 1 to Sat. Mar. 2, 1996	Queen's Cup at	TBA
Fri. Mar. 8 to Sun. Mar. 10, 1996	CIAU Championships at Toronto	

Men's and Women's Nordic Skiing

Sat. Jan. 20 to Sun. Jan. 21, 1996	Designated Race 1 at Duntroon (Guelph)
Sat. Feb. 3 to Sun. Feb. 4, 1996	Designated Race 2 at Ottawa
Sat. Feb. 17 to Sun. Feb. 18, 1996	OUAA / OWIAA Finals at Lakehead

Men's and Women's Swimming

Fri. Jan. 12, 1996	Laurentian at York - Dual Meet League	6:00 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 13, 1996	Laurentian at Toronto - Dual Meet League	2:00 p.m.
Fri. Jan. 19 to Sat. Jan. 20, 1996	Laurentian at Laurier - Dual Meet League	
Fri. Feb. 2, 1996	OWIAA Championships at Laurentian	All Day
Sun. Feb. 4, 1996	OWIAA Championships at Laurentian	All Day
Fri. Feb. 9, 1996	OUAA Championships at Brock League	All Day
Sun. Feb. 11, 1996	OUAA Championships at Brock League	All Day
Fri. Feb. 23, 1996	CIAU Championships at Guelph League	All Day
Sun. Feb. 25, 1996	CIAU Championships at Guelph League	All Day

Men's and Women's Track and Field

Sat. Jan. 6, 1996	1st Chance Open Qualifier at Toronto	2:00 p.m.
Fri. Jan. 12, 1996	Hamilton Spectator Games	
Sat. Jan. 13, 1996	York Open or Don Wright Inv. at Western	10:00 / 2:00
Fri. Jan. 19 to Sat. Jan. 20, 1996	CAN AM Open Classic at Windsor	
Sat. Feb. 3, 1996	Toronto Open Classic	2:00 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 16, 1996	Western Open	3:00 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 23, 1996	Last Chance Open Qualifier at Toronto	5:00 p.m.
Fri. Mar. 1 to Sat. Mar. 2, 1996	OWIAA / OUAA Finals at York	
Fri. Mar. 8 to Sat. Mar. 9, 1996	CIAU Championships at Windsor	

Men's Volleyball

Fri. Jan. 5 to Sun. Jan. 7, 1996	Ryerson Tournament	
Sat. Jan. 13, 1996	York at Laurentian	1:00 p.m.
Fri. Jan. 19, 1996	Laurentian at Toronto	8:00 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 20, 1996	Laurentian at Queen's	8:00 p.m.
Sat. Jan. 27, 1996	Laurentian at York	8:00 p.m.
Sun. Jan. 28, 1996	Laurentian at Ryerson	1:00 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 3, 1996	Ryerson at Laurentian	1:00 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 10, 1996	OUAA East Semi-Finals	[4@1, 3@2]
Sat. Feb. 17, 1996	OUAA Finals (at highest ranked)	
Sat. Feb. 24, 1996	OUAA Finals (at West winner)	
Fri. Mar. 1 to Sun. Mar. 3, 1996	CIAU Championships at University of Calgary	



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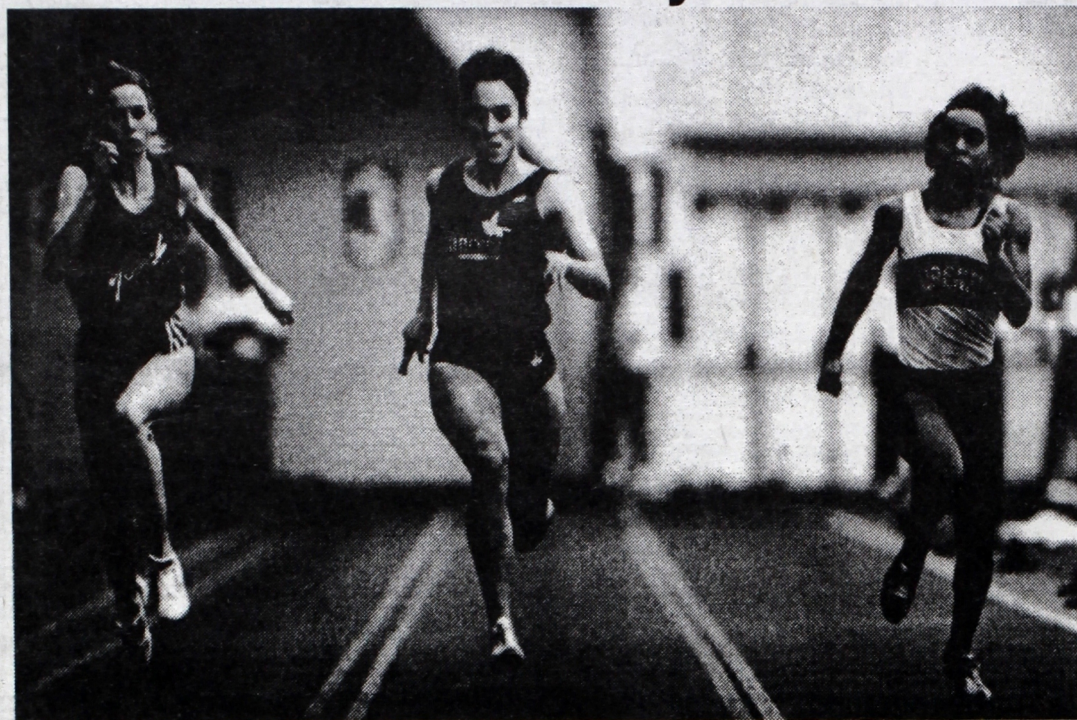
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Laurentian Varsity Veeline



**Men's Hockey: Friday - UQTR 7
Laurentian 3**

**Saturday - Concordia 4
Laurentian 3**

The Vees ended 1995 on an unfortunate losing note, defeated by the two aforementioned Quebec teams. The Vees finished the year tied for the Mid West Division lead in the OUAA with the York Yeomen. York and Laurentian are only a single point ahead of the Brock Badgers. The Yeomen and the Badgers each have a game at hand on Laurentian.

Men's and Women's Track and Field: The track teams travelled to London, Ontario to compete in the indoor Western Season Opener. Personal bests were achieved by: Jason Lash - 300m; John Thompson

- 1500m and 3000m; Glen Lamothe - 600m; Greg Judge - Pole Vault; Rob Vanden Hangel - 1500m and 3000m; Lynne Perron - 1500m and 3000m; and Ian Janssen in the Triple Jump. Rookie Lynne Perron was the L.U. women's MVP while Ian Janssen received the same honour's for the men's side.

Athletes of the Week: Ian Janssen was named Laurentian male athlete of the week after he had a personal best and also set a Laurentian school record in the triple jump with a measurement of 14.09 meters. This jump also allowed Ian to qualify for the CIAU Championships to be held in March. Evidently, the OUAA male athlete of the week is Western triple jumper Garry Stoddard, who leaped

14.83 metres for a two year high in the CIAU.

Lynne Perron was named Laurentian female athlete of the week after setting personal bests in the 1500m and 3000m races. Congratulations to Lynne and Ian!

Laurentian Athletics are Exceptional: Currently, Laurentian has five top-ten teams. The Laurentian Men's and Women's Basketball teams are currently ranked fifth in the country, as well as the Men's Swimming team. The Women's Swimming team is ranked seventh and the Hockey Vees are tied with York for first place in the OUAA Mid West Division. Congratulations to all of our athletes! Merry Christmas!

A.C.A. 3-on-3 Basketball

To Laurentian Students:

The Afro-Caribbean Association (A.C.A.) would like to take the time to thank you for such a wonderful response to our 3-on-3 basketball tournament. We put a lot of time and effort into this event. We would like to apologize for the length of time we took in the beginning to get the show on the road. We were overwhelmed by the turn out.

We would like to firstly thank the extraordinary women that took part in this event. Their athletic ability matched that of the male participants. It is obvious that Laurentian women have what it takes. Also, the men who played were sportsman-like and intense athletes. Congratulations to the winners.

We would like to thank Nielson and Cadbury for their extensive sponsorship along with...

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We apologize for any discontent with the tournament. Hopefully, we can improve on this event and try again next semester.

We are truly happy with the relationship Laurentian students have with the A.C.A. Our club is open to all students regardless of race or colour. We welcome all to take part in our events or to become a member of our club. Please do not hesitate to inquire about our club by calling the line at 673-3502. If you have any questions or concerns, I would love to take the time to talk with you.

Thank you again.

Richard Spencer - A.C.A. President



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